

**WUPE 100.1FM**  
**North Adams, Massachusetts**

# **ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT**

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APRIL – MAY – JUNE  
2015

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Compiled by Tom Conklin  
News Director

Gamma Broadcasting 2015

# **WUPE 100.1FM**

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## **COMMUNITY ISSUES IN THE 2ND QUARTER OF 2015**

What were some of the issues in our community? Read on.

### **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND ELECTION SEASON:**

The Busy Annual Town Meeting and Election season took place this quarter. Every town in the southern Berkshires schedules separate annual town meetings where town budgets and other articles relating to town issues are voted upon. Usually after, but sometime before the town meetings, each town also holds an annual election where town officers whose terms are expired are decided by a citizens voting process.

### **FOURTH TRIAL FOR WILLIAM DEMAGALL:**

A day after a mistrial was declared in the murder case against William Demagall, a special prosecutor said he plans to bring try the case for a fourth time. Demagall's indictment on the murder charge remains in place, meaning the case won't have to be resubmitted to a grand jury before proceeding to a new trial. Demagall, a former Berkshire County resident, was put on trial for the third time this month in the February 2006 beating and stabbing death of George Mancini, 56, in his Hillsdale, N.Y. home. The first two trials ended in convictions that were ultimately thrown out on appeal.

### **CLARKSBURG BRUSHFIRE BIGGEST IN RECENT MEMORY:**

Fighting on land and in the air in Clarksburg State Forest, first responders successfully knocked down the largest fire in recent memory for many area residents late April/early May. The fire site had grown to cover 189 acres at its largest, according to officials. Clarksburg State Forest is roughly 3,000 acres. Officials believe the blaze, which started along the Appalachian Trail some two miles north of Massachusetts Avenue in North Adams, was sparked by a campfire.

### **CITY AND TOWN BUDGET CHALLENGES**

Dr. Douglas Dias was hired as the new superintendent at the Williamstown-Lanesborough Public Schools. His start date was July 1st, 2015. Dias was formerly the Principal of Medway High School in Medway Ma and Canton High School in Canton Mass.

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# **WUPE 100.1 FM**

**Pittsfield, Massachusetts**

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### **City Talk**

City Talk is a 30 minute public affairs program focusing on the city of Pittsfield and its workings. Guests include local lawmakers, educators, city officials, city councilors, etc. The program is hosted by Gamma Broadcasting News Director Tom Conklin and airs on AM1420 WBEC on Friday's at 11:30AM and – and also repeats on Sunday mornings on AM1420 WBEC, 100.1 WUPE-FM, WUPE-AM and LIVE 95.9 FM.

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# **CITY TALK – GUESTS 2015**

## **APRIL**

**04/03/15 – Pittsfield Mayor Dan Bianchi – City Issues**

**04/10/15 – Dalton Lions Club – Dan McGinnis, Bob Faye – Proposed Circus Animal Ban**

**04/17/15 – Fire Inspector, Randy Stein – Summer fire prevention/safety**

**04/24/15 – Christine Hoyt, Christina Barret of BCC – Happenings and Issues**

## **MAY**

**05/01/15 – Encore Program – Dalton Lions Club**

**05/08/15 – Encore Program - Fire Inspector, Randy Stein**

**05/15/15 – Mass MoCA (Mike Garland interview) – Summer Happenings**

**05/22/15 – Berkshire Chamber Pres. & CEO, Jonathan Butler – Informational**

**05/29/15 – Pittsfield Mayor Dan Bianchi – City Issues**

## **JUNE**

**06/05/15 – Ward 6 City Councilor, John Krol – Ward 6 and general City Issues**

**06/12/15 – Encore Program - Berkshire Chamber Pres. & CEO, Jonathan Butler**

**06/19/15 – Berkshire Humane Society, Cheryl Truskowski – Woofstock and other happenings**

**06/26/15 – Pittsfield Health Dept. Director, Gina Armstrong – Tick Borne Illness**



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**NEWS**

This is a sample of news copy presented on the air on the air during a normal broadcast day.

The Berkshire News Network provides extensive and rounded coverage of stories throughout Berkshire County. Stories are shared between stations on a routine basis.

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**NA 04-01-15**

**MCLA PRESIDENTIAL PICK STAYING IN WISCONSIN (NA)**

MCLA's choice for its 12th president will not be accepting the position. Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts announced yesterday that Greg Summers has bowed out because of personal issues. Summers was the unanimous choice of the trustees on March 5th. Summers was one of three finalists selected from an initial 59 candidates after about a five-month search. Cynthia Farr Brown will continue as interim president, a post she's held since the departure of President Mary Grant last fall to her new job as chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

**ADAMS APPROVES \$19 MILLION BUDGET (NA)**

The Adams-Cheshire Regional School Committee on Tuesday night approved 6-1 a budget of \$19,416,521 for fiscal 2016. IBerkshires.com reports that the spending plan includes an \$800,000 increase in assessments to the regional school district's two towns and the vote places the district's educational future squarely in voters' hands. Joshua DeMarsico-Birkland was the lone protest vote against the total budget, afterward saying that it's still not what's needed for the school system. School officials say up to 25 positions would be eliminated, including 10 teachers. The budget has already been trimmed as much as possible, they said, including cutting paraprofessionals, supplies, professional development and building maintenance.

**POWNAI WOMAN ACCUSED OF MEDICAL CHILD ABUSE AND MORE (NA)**

A Pownal woman is accused of having her child subjected to dozens of invasive, unwarranted medical tests, and lying about the child's health on Social Security Disability applications. 33 year old Tina Sbrega pleaded not guilty Monday in Vermont Superior Court to two misdemeanor counts of welfare fraud, two felony counts of false swearing, two misdemeanor counts of false pretenses or false tokens, cruelty to a child under 10, and reckless endangerment. She was released under the condition she abide by all Family Court orders in effect.

**WILLIAMSTOWN-LANESBOROUGH HOPEFUL OF SSCHOOL LEADER (NA)**

Williamstown-Lanesborough school officials are optimistic about having a contract for their next superintendent in place by next week, even though their chosen candidate was interviewing in another district as well. IBerkshires.com reports that as scheduled, Medway High School Principal Douglas Dias reported to the West Springfield School District yesterday morning to take tours of the district's schools, and Dias was scheduled to be interviewed by the West Springfield School Committee last night, according to West Springfield Mayor Edward Sullivan.

**NA 04-03-15**

### **MIDDLE SCHOOLS SEND STUDENTS TO YOUTH CONFERENCE (All)**

Nineteen public and private Berkshire County middle schools will send students to the Crowne Plaza, in Pittsfield, on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. The fourth annual STRIVE (Students Teaching Respect Integrity Values and Equality) Youth Leadership Conference, which is hosted by the District Attorney's Office Youth Advisory Board, will run from 8:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. The day-long conference is created by the high school Youth Advisory Board to educate their younger peers on social issues impacting teens. Featured presentations include: Growing Strong Roots for Leadership, Drug Awareness, LGBT Allyship, and Planting Seeds for Success in High School.

### **NORTH ADAMS CRASH SENDS FOUR TO HOSPITALS (NA)**

Four people were taken to the hospital following a two-car crash at the intersection of Hodges Cross Road and Curran Memorial Highway (Route 8) yesterday afternoon. Shortly before 3 p.m., a Ford Focus hatchback with New York license plates traveling northbound on Route 8 near Walmart collided with a Chrysler 200 sedan that was turning from Hodges Cross Road. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to North Adams Police, it looked as if one of the cars did not stop for a red light. One of the Ford's three occupants was taken to Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield for injuries. Two other passengers and the Chrysler's single occupant were taken to BMC Northern Berkshire Campus in North Adams. The identities of both vehicles' occupants, along with extent of their injuries, were not available.

### **DIAS CHOOSES LANESBOROUGH-WILLIAMSTOWN (NA)**

It appears the Lanesborough-Williamstown schools' new superintendent will be current Medway High School Principal Douglas Dias. According to West Springfield Mayor Edward Sullivan, Dias withdrew his name yesterday from consideration for the superintendent position in West Springfield. MassLive.com reports that the West Springfield School Committee, which Sullivan chairs, reportedly offered its job to its interim Superintendent Michael Richard. Dias interviewed for the West Springfield post on Tuesday. He gave his notice to the Medway School District before interviewing for the Lanesborough-Williamstown post.

### **NEW EVENTS COORDINATOR IN NORTH ADAMS (NA)**

The City of North Adams is switching up the tourism director post to focus on economic and cultural development. IBerkshires.com reports that the revamped job is being filled part time by Suzy Helme, who operated the Shima baby goods store on Main and Eagle streets. Helme and a co-owner ran the downtown storefront for nearly seven years before recently closing; the company is still online. She has been highly involved in the community through the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition and organizing the Main Street merchants during past Solid Sound Festivals. Mayor Richard Alcombright said Helme is familiar with the city and its marketing needs.

**NA 04-07-15**

**STAFF CUTS BEGIN AT ADAMS-CHESHIRE (NA)**

The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District began preparing for staff reductions to accommodate its reduced budget. IBerkshires.com reports that Superintendent Kristen Gordon informed the School Committee last night that the 28 individuals who may be cut have been notified. The School Committee last week passed a \$19.4 million budget that increased Adams and Cheshire's regional assessments by \$800,000. Adams Board of Selectmen did not approve increasing the assessment budget at its last meeting, instead voting to keep the town administrator's proposed budget that would force the district to cut up to 28 positions. With Adams' levy capacity nearly breached, any movement to increase the district's budget at town meeting would trigger a Proposition 2 1/2 override.

**NORTH ADAMS RINK MANAGER ADMITS STEALING FROM FACILITY, AVOIDS CONVICTION (NA)**

The manager of the North Adams skating rink admitted yesterday to stealing more than \$2,200 from its coffers, according to court documents. Darin Lane admitted to sufficient facts for a finding of guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court to a charge of larceny over \$250. The charge was continued without a finding until April 13 and will be dismissed upon his payment of \$2,205.36 in restitution and \$490 in court fees. Lane told police that he had taken the money from the safe at the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Memorial Skating Rink, where he is the only manager, in order to pay for heating oil in his home. It is unclear what effect yesterday's disposition — in which Lane avoided a conviction — will have on his future employment with the city of North Adams, which oversees the rink.

**WILLIAMSTOWN-LANESBOROUGH ELEMENTARIES OK SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT (NA)**

Two-thirds of the Lanesborough-Williamstown public school "Tri-District" has approved the contract for the towns' next school superintendent. Yesterday morning, the elementary school committee members who compose the joint Superintendency Union 71 committee met and unanimously approved a three-year deal for Douglas Dias. The contract faces another vote for approval on Wednesday morning, when the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee meets at 9 a.m. at the junior-senior high school. Dias would be paid \$150,000 in the first year of the contract with increases to be negotiated by him and the school districts in succeeding years.

**NORTH ADAMS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM CLOSING THIS MONTH (NA)**

After three years, the New England Holocaust Institute has a critical decision to make: Move or close completely. IBerkshires.com reports that Darrell English, who's run the small museum on Eagle Street on a shoestring, said last week that he will have to pack up by the end of the month to make way for the adjacent Friendship Food Pantry, which needs bigger quarters. Still, English is keeping hope that the museum can find a new home: He is still in talks with Worcester State University to mount some kind of exhibit, possibly permanent, from his massive collection and planned to speak with Adams officials this week on opportunities in the Mother Town.

**NA 04-09-15**

**BERKSHIRE MAN FACING THIRD TRIAL IN SLAYING OF HILLSDALE, N.Y., MAN (All)  
(DEM-uh-gal)**

Opening arguments in the third murder trial of a Berkshire County man are expected to begin this morning at the Columbia County Courthouse in Hudson. 31 year old William Demagall is charged with second-degree murder in the February 2006 slaying of 56 year old George Mancini of Hillsdale, N.Y. Demagall has twice been convicted of the murder — and an appeals court has twice struck down those convictions. Demagall remains in lock-up at the Green Meadows Correction Facility in Comestock, N.Y.

**FIRST RESPONDERS TAKE PART IN TERROR EXERCISE (All)**

U.S. Homeland Security wants to make sure that if a terrorist attack happens in Western Massachusetts, first responders know what to do. IBerkshires.com reports that officials spanning from the Federal Bureau of Investigation to local fire, police, and boards of health, sat down yesterday to discuss the various roles each will play in a scenario in what of the largest training exercises in recent years. The scenario pretended that an unidentified package, possibly a bomb, was reported at a rail yard. Other packages eventually are found and one explodes in a different part of the county. Local responders — police, fire, emergency medical services — from Great Barrington to North Adams attended the session. They were joined by representatives from the FBI, Homeland Security, the National Guard and the federal Department of Transportation.

**ADAMS POLICE SEARCH FOR SUSPECT IN WEEKEND STABBING OUTSIDE BAR (NA)**

Adams Police are looking for a suspect who they say repeatedly stabbed a North Adams man outside Rascal's Lounge early Saturday morning. The Berkshire Eagle reports that 23 year old Michael Fillion suffered heavy lacerations to his upper body in the attack, which occurred around 1:47 a.m. outside the still-packed Summer Street bar. The assailant was leaving the bar in a light-colored pickup truck when he nearly struck Fillion and another person while they were crossing Summer Street, according to Adams Police Chief Richard Tarsa Jr. The man then got out of the vehicle and confronted Fillion and the other person before attacking Fillion with a knife-like object. Fillion was transported to Berkshire Medical Center, where he underwent a surgical procedure and has since been released.

**NORTH ADAMS MAN ALLEGEDLY HAD CRYSTAL METH SHIPPED BY MAIL (NA)**

A North Adams man is being held on \$25,000 cash bail after allegedly attempting to pick up a package containing 13.6 grams of crystal methamphetamine at the North Adams post office on Tuesday. According to police, 36 year old Mark Ring, of Bradley Street, is suspected of distributing, throughout the North Adams area, crystal meth that he has been purchasing from a source on the West Coast. Ring pleaded not guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court on Wednesday to one count of class B drug possession with intent to distribute, second offense. His next court appearance is scheduled for May 8th. According to the police report, Ring was convicted of at least four similar drug offenses while living in California.

**NA 04-14-15**

**BERKSHIRE MAYORS SQUARE OFF IN SUPPORT OF FITNESS CHALLENGE (NA, P)**

North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright and Pittsfield Mayor Dan Bianchi will be sweating it out on June 18th. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the Berkshires' only two mayors will compete in Pittsfield's Green Mile Road Race as part of the 10-week Mayors' Fitness Challenge, which aims to encourage healthy eating and exercise habits in city residents. Participants in the challenge, which kicks off in May, are awarded points — and prizes — based on their physical activity and how many servings of fruit, vegetables and water they consume. Bianchi, Alcombright and event organizers announced the 2015 Mayors' Fitness Challenge at North Adams City Hall on Monday. The Mayor's Fitness Challenge began in North Adams last summer, with more than 600 participants. Organizers believe they can more than double that number by including the city of Pittsfield.

**NORTH ADAMS FINDS NEW PART-TIME EVENTS COORDINATOR IN SUZY HELME (NA)**

After a series of interim directors of tourism and events, Mayor Richard Alcombright has tweaked the position and appointed Suzy Helme as a part-time events coordinator. Helme, appointed last month, will focus solely on coordinating city events during her 20-hour per week schedule. The "tourism" half of the position had never really materialized under its previous directors, Alcombright said, prompting him to change the job description. The position has been debated during previous year's budget meetings, with some city councilors questioning why a tourism position exists without an ample promotional budget. Others have suggested that events can be coordinated by local businesses.

**ADAMS TO DECIDE SOLAR ARRAY PILOT FEE AT TOWN MEETING (NA)**

Town Adams Town meeting will decide if the 217 East Road solar panel project will pay the town a fee instead of taxes. IBerkshires.com reports that Town Administrator Tony Mazzucco introduced the warrant article to the Selectmen on Wednesday of last week. Mazzucco said the PILOT, or payment in lieu of taxes, agreement is standard throughout the commonwealth. The proposed 1.5-megawatt array, which is being developed by Apis Energy Group LLC, will be placed on the 11-acre East Road property. The developer holds a lease agreement with the land owner. Mazzucco said the agreement will provide the town with a yearly fee of \$15,000 that the assessor felt was a fair price.

**LANESBOROUGH OFFERS POLICE CHIEF JOB TO TIMOTHY SORRELL (NA, P)**

The Lanesborough Board of Selectmen has unanimously voted to offer Timothy Sorrell the job as chief of police. Sorrell has been an officer in the department since 1987 and just 12 years ago, he was the runner up for the position. Current Chief Mark Bashara announced his upcoming retirement late last year and the town launched a process for finding his replacement.



**NA 04-16-15**

**NORTH ADAMS FIRES MANAGER WHO TOOK \$2,200 FROM SKATING RINK (NA)**

Darin Lane, who admitted to taking \$2,200 from the North Adams skating rink that he managed, has been fired. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Lane, who told police he took the money from the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Memorial Skating Rink in order to pay for heating oil at his home this winter, said he intended to replenish the funds when he got his tax refund. Lane admitted to sufficient facts for a finding of guilt on a charge of larceny over \$250 in Northern Berkshire District Court on April 6th. The charges were continued without a finding and dismissed upon his payment of just over \$2,200 in restitution the day of the disposition and \$490 in court fees on the following day. He was initially placed on paid administrative leave in March.

**MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TO GATHER PUBLIC INPUT (NA)**

Williamstown Residents of the Mount Greylock Regional School District will have their chance tonight to help shape the upcoming school building project. The district will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. at the high school to gather input as officials work to make a firm choice for the scope of the project. Among the issues to resolve: Whether to erect a new building or to renovate the existing high school at the Cold Spring Road campus. Residents of both towns have long sought solutions to the aging campus, built in 1960 and expanded in 1968. A feasibility study identified different paths the 550-student, Grade 7 to 12 district could take, from a renovation to a new building.

**ADAMS TOWN MANAGERS RECOMMENDS OVERRIDE (NA)**

Town Administrator Tony Mazzucco yesterday explained the consequences of shifting funds from the municipal budget to support the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District budget. Mazzucco recommended a Proposition 2 1/2 override as the most feasible way to supply the additional \$360,000 assessment voted by the School Committee two weeks ago.

**EIGHT BERKSHIRE RESIDENTS FACE CHARGES TIED TO DRUG TRADE (P)**

Eight Berkshire County residents are facing conspiracy charges after wiretaps of their cellphones and other surveillance linked them to suspected drug dealers operating between the Berkshires and Springfield. According to police 46 year old Cornell Griffin, 36 year old Thomas Hurley, 25 year old Alicia Brett-Lucaroni, 26 year old Nicole Serra, 28 year old James Scace, 57 year old Robin Garzone, and 25 year old Jacqueline Garzone, all of Pittsfield, and 40 year old Michael St. John, of Lanesborough, were arrested on warrants between Monday and Tuesday. The arrests are the result of a complex investigation by the Berkshire County Law Enforcement Task Force looking into the trafficking and sales of cocaine and heroin in the Berkshire and Springfield areas.

**NA 04-21-15**

**WILLIAM DEMAGALL MURDER TRIAL: NY JURY WEIGHS DEFENDANT'S MINDSET (All)**

Prosecutors contend William Demagall was aware he was acting immorally when he delivered the fatal blow to 56-year-old George Mancini, who was crawling on the floor, begging for his life saying, "Please don't kill me." The Berkshire Eagle reports that his defense attorney, however, said Demagall was in the depths of psychosis and thought he was acting as an, "agent of God," when he beat and stabbed Mancini to death in his Hillsdale, N.Y., home in February 2006. A Columbia County jury, after hearing those closing arguments on Monday, began deliberating in the case following an eight-day trial. The jury of eight women and six men — 12 who will deliberate and two alternates — received the case shortly after noon Monday.

**NORTH ADAMS CRASH: 2ND DRIVER EXPECTED TO BE ID'D, CHARGED (NA)**

The second driver in an apparent drag race on the Curran Highway that caused a multi-vehicle crash last week is expected to be identified and charged soon, according to North Adams police. The Berkshire Eagle reports that two of the four victims of the crash, including one of the drivers involved in the race on remain hospitalized. Just before 11 p.m. Thursday, one of the two cars racing north on the highway veered into oncoming traffic, striking two other cars. The second car participating in the race drove away from the scene, but North Adams say police they have spoken with several witnesses, and they expect to identify and charge the driver soon.

**FOUR TOWNS TO CELEBRATE 250TH ANNIVERSARY TOGETHER (All)**

A local celebration has gone international, as a world renowned Irish musician will play the Crowne Plaza at the most grand event commemorating the 250th anniversaries of Becket, Lanesborough, Richmond and Williamstown. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Stephanie Abrams, local radio host and regular traveler to Ireland, played a leading role in organizing a show by Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones to conclude the June 2nd event. All four towns turning 250 are also planning their own celebrations, but the Crowne Plaza dinner and show stand out as the lone event where planners from each are participating.

**LENOX FRIENDLY'S CLOSSES ABRUPTLY (GB, P - Interest)**

After 40 years of operation, the Friendly's on Pittsfield-Lenox Road closed for good at the conclusion of business Sunday night. The restaurant had been open since 1975. Signs placed on the front door, and entrance to the restaurant's walk-up ice cream stand read, "We thank you for your years of patronage, but this location has been permanently closed." The Lenox restaurant employed around 20 full- and part-time workers according to an employee. The Lenox Friendly's is the chain's third Berkshire store to close in the last three years. The North Adams Friendly's, which had been open for 50 years, closed abruptly last November.



**NA 04-23-15**

**CHESHIRE ASSESSORS WORKING ON BUSINESS TAX 'NONCOMPLIANCE' (NA, P)**

The Cheshire Board of Assessors says it hired an outside evaluator to ensure that there are no inequities in taxing personal property. IBerkshires.com reports that a statement from the board was read Tuesday night at the Selectmen's meeting in response to accusations last week by a resident of unfair taxation. The Selectmen had hoped to meet with the Board of Assessors, but the evaluation panel had a scheduling conflict. However, it did provide a statement saying it had collected \$80,000 in personal property taxes last year and had paid nearly \$5,000 for an outside assessment service to evaluate all businesses that are listed by the town clerk.

**WILLIAMSTOWN SELECTMEN CANDIDATES ADDRESS TOWN ISSUES (NA)**

The four Williamstown candidates vying to fill one open seat on the Board of Selectmen introduced themselves to the town in a recent forum hosted by the League of Women Voters. IBerkshires.com reports that Martino Donati, Jack Nogueira, Anne O'Connor and Alison O'Grady talked about their own experience and what issues they see confronting the town. Unlike last year, when economic development dominated a similar forum, this year's panel discussed a wider range of issues in an event moderated by state Rep. Gailanne Cariddi, D-North Adams.

**BCC, MCLA TO SHIFT INTERMODAL CENTER FACILITIES TO CONTE FEDERAL BUILDING (NA, P)**

Berkshire Community College and the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts are planning to consolidate all of their downtown Pittsfield classroom facilities at one central location. The Berkshire Eagle reports that both schools are pulling out of the Intermodal Transportation Center on Columbus Avenue and plan to expand their presence at the Silvio O. Conte Federal Building on Center Street just down the street. MCLA also will be leaving the Intermodal Center by June 30th, according to college spokeswoman Bernadette Alden. BCC's Office of Community Education & Workforce Development will move to the Education Center at Conte beginning in June. BCC maintains a third location in downtown Pittsfield at 1Berkshire's headquarters building on Allen Street, but classes are not held there. Those offices will remain open.

**TOWN MEETING DATE SET IN ADAMS (NA)**

Selectmen in Adams have set the town's annual town meeting date and opened the warrant. The Selectmen also suspended rules at the workshop meeting to vote on a town meeting date. Town in Adams meeting will be Tuesday, June 23rd, at 7 p.m. in the C.T. Plunkett School auditorium.

**NA 04-28-15**

**BHS: NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR BMC HEALTHNET FALLOUT (All)**

Berkshire Health Systems is taking exception to Boston Medical Center HealthNet's implication that the two sides failing to renew insurance coverage is the health system's fault. IBerkshires.com reports that Senior Vice President Ruth Blodgett in an email said that BHS has tried to take the high road and focus on helping people get the coverage they need. She says that BMC HealthNet's spokespeople are trying to put the blame BHS. The BMC HealthNet program is a branch of insurance focused on providing Medicaid insurance coverage. In December, it ended coverage for patients with Baystate Health Systems and followed up this month with ending its relationship with Berkshire Health Systems.

**NORTH ADAMS MAN HELD WITHOUT BAIL IN STABBING (NA)**

A North Adams man is being held without bail in the stabbing of another man on Friday near Walnut Street. The Berkshire eagle reports that 19 year old Keith Larrabee, who is listed as being homeless, allegedly stabbed a man who was chasing him because he believed Larrabee had stolen items from the son of his girlfriend. The victim, 32 year old Joseph Filio, suffered a non-life-threatening stab wound to his abdomen. He was transported to BMC. Larabee was accompanied by another man, 21 year old Richard Perkins III. Larrabee pleaded not guilty to charges of assault to murder, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and assault and battery. He was held without the right to bail. Perkins pleaded not guilty to one count of assault and battery.

**INVESTIGATION CONTINUES INTO APRIL 4 ADAMS STABBING (NA)**

Adams police continue to investigate the April 4th slashing of a man outside of Rascal's Lounge on North Summer Street, and they are asking for the public's help. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to police the incident occurred about 1:45 a.m. after a motor vehicle altercation. 23 year old Michael Fillion, of North Adams, received slashes to his upper body and was taken to Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield. He was released following his treatment. The suspect apparently fled the scene in a white Ford or Dodge extended cab pickup truck. Although police have a description of the suspect — a Hispanic or light-skinned African-American male, 20-30 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches, with a tall, muscular build — they asking for anyone with information to call.

**FINAL JOCELYN LECLAIR 5K SET FOR SUNDAY (NA)**

Jocelyn LeClair passed away at the young age of 15 from spinal meningitis in August of 2001. IBerkshires.com reports that the following spring, in 2002, her friend and Drury High School teammate Allison Holmes founded the Jocelyn E. Leclair Memorial Scholarship race to honor LeClair. Now, 14 years later, her parents Bob and Pat LeClair have decided that this year's Sunday, May 3rd, race will be the last run. Over the past 14 years, with the help of family, friends, and the community, the race has raised slightly more than \$120,000. The money raised has gone to scholarships for Drury seniors, McCann Tech seniors, the Northern Berkshire YMCA, and the North Adams Police Department's ROPES program.

**NA 05-04-15**

**RED FLAG WARNING IN EFFECT TODAY (All)**

A Red Flag Warning is in effect for all of Western Massachusetts, including all of Berkshire County from noon today until 8pm. According to the National Weather Service, a red flag warning means that dangerous fire weather conditions are expected due to the combination of gusty winds, low relative humidity, and dry fuels. Any fires that develop may quickly get out of control and become difficult to contain.

**CLARKSBURG BRUSH FIRE UNDER CONTROL AT LAST (All Interest)**

A large brush fire that burned for three days in Clarksburg State Forest has been brought under control. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to local fire officials on Saturday. The blaze that covered 272 acres was contained late Friday afternoon, according to the Clarksburg Fire Chief. No additional acreage was reported burned on Saturday. He said that 52 firefighters from departments as far away as Arlington, Vt., spent Saturday walking through the rugged terrain looking for any areas that might still be smoldering. Firefighters received air support battling the blaze on Thursday, but helicopters were not involved on Saturday. No injuries or property damage have been reported. The blaze, which started along the Appalachian Trail, was first reported by a hiker around 2 p.m. on Wednesday.

**BUSY ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND ELECTION SEASON GETS UNDERWAY (All)**

The busy part of the Berkshires Annual Town Meeting and Election season gets underway today. The bulk of those meetings are in the southern Berkshires, including in the towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield, to name just a couple. Generally, with a few exceptions, towns hold their annual elections a week after their annual town meetings. One exception is the town of Adams which holds its annual election today. The town of Cheshire is also holding its annual election today at the Senior Center. The town meeting and election season will run through the month of May end even into June in some cases.

**MCLA SELECTS THREE FOR BERKSHIRE COUNTY EDUCATOR RECOGNITION AWARDS (All)**

Three local K-12 educators have been selected to receive Berkshire County Educator Recognition Awards in the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts-sponsored ceremony's fifth year. According to the Berkshire Eagle the 2015 recipients — chosen by MCLA and local superintendents — include Glendon Chamberlin, a first-grade teacher at Muddy Brook Regional Elementary School in Great Barrington, Jill Pompei, Title 1 director and literary coach at C.T. Plunkett Elementary School in Adams, and Liza Barrett, an English teacher at Mount Greylock Regional High School. This year's recipients, deemed exceptional teachers, will be recognized during a ceremony at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the social hall at the MCLA Church Street Center.

**NA 05-04-15**

**FUEL ASSISTANCE FROM BCAC EXTENDED TO MAY 15 (All)**

Many residents in the Berkshires are still reeling from high fuel bills as a result of the harsh winter, but there is some good news for those looking for some help. Berkshire Community Action Council in Pittsfield has announced that they have extended the date to file for fuel assistance to May 15<sup>th</sup>. Fuel Assistance generally runs from November 1-April 30 so the extension will come in handy for many local residents who now have until May 15<sup>th</sup> to apply. BCAC maintains three offices in Berkshire County....1531 East Street in Pittsfield, 30 Stockbridge Road in Great Barrington and 85 Main Street in North Adams.

**HUMANE RACE IN WILLIAMSTOWN DRAWS OUT PEOPLE AND POOCHES (NA)**

Nearly 200 people, along with 103 dogs gathered in Williamstown on Saturday morning to take part in the 13th annual Humane Race, a fundraiser for the Berkshire Humane Society. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the total amount of money raised, which includes pledges collected by some participants, was unavailable, but more than \$120,000 has been raised for the Humane Society since this event began. Those who brought dogs were allowed to participate with their pets in one of two events: a 5K Fun Run, or a 1 mile walk. Those without animals competed solo. There were no official winners, and only a couple of requirements. Dogs had to be leashed to participate.

**POWNA SCHOOL BOARD SEEKS ADDITIONAL YEAR TO DEAL WITH BUS ISSUE (NA)**

The Pownal school board will seek a temporary waiver that will allow them to continue to research ways to keep their own buses. The Bennington Banner reports that the board is acting in response to Act 153, which, in the name of keeping costs down across the state, requires the supervisory union to operate all transportation. Districts that want to operate their own buses, as Pownal does, can apply for a waiver to this law, which is only available if the state can be shown that a district operating independently is more cost-effective both for the district and for the SU as a whole.

**NORTH ADAMS: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CITY'S TOURIST BOOTH (NA)**

With the closing of the North Adams office of tourism on Main Street, volunteers are especially needed for the city's tourist booth located on Union Street at the Windsor Mill. The ideal candidates are knowledgeable about North Adams and the surrounding area and enjoy talking to people. Volunteers provide directions to known attractions and offer suggestions for places to eat, hike, walk, picnic, shop, and more.

**NA 05-06-15**

#### **NORTH ADAMS ISSUES BURN WARNING (NA)**

North Adams Fire Director Stephen Meranti is warning residents against outdoor burns after a simultaneous brush and structure fire along the Mohawk Trail last weekend. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to Meranti, roughly 20 firefighters knocked down a fire at 2416 Mohawk Trail in the vicinity of the Western Summit late Sunday afternoon. A resident's campfire spread to a wooded area behind the house and then spread to a garage next door. Burn season in Massachusetts ended last Thursday, and a red flag warning was issued by the National Weather Service in Albany on Monday for brush fire danger. A brush fire burned about 272 acres in Clarksburg State Forest last week.

#### **NORTH ADAMS OFFICIALS PUSH FOR NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMPLETION (NA)**

North Adams School officials are pushing to get Colegrove Park Elementary School "substantially complete" by the target date of July 22nd. IBerkshires.com reports that Mayor Richard Alcombright told the School Committee on Tuesday night that things are moving along well. But he cautioned the date had been "aggressive" and there could be a delay. The date's an important factor for teachers and staff who will be moving from Sullivan School into the newly renovated former middle school. Alcombright said the move wouldn't be last minute and officials should know within the next few weeks if the date could be kept. He vowed to "keep their feet to fire" to finish on time.

#### **THREE EARN PARKS COMMISSION SEATS IN ADAMS (NA)**

A wave of incumbents were victorious Monday in an annual town election that saw only one contested race — four candidates vying for three open seats on the Parks Commission. The Berkshire Eagle reports that James Fassell, Todd Shafer and Jason Sniezak won the three parks commission seats up for grabs, leaving out Michael Meczwyor. In other notable races, Selectmen John Duval and Arthur Harrington retained their seats after running unopposed, as did Town Clerk Haley Meczwyor. The selectmen serve two-year terms.

#### **CHESHIRE WILL LOOK EXPANDING ITS BOARD OF SELECTMEN (NA, P)**

A citizen's petition will ask town meeting to consider increasing the Board of Selectmen to five members. IBerkshires.com reports that resident Richard Scholz gave the board the citizen's petition yesterday with 31 signatures to request that an article be placed on this year's annual town meeting warrant that will see if the voters would put an item to expand the board from three members to five on next year's annual election. Selectman Paul Astorino said he felt Scholz was doing this because he failed to get elected as selectman last year.

#### **NORTH ADAMS SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVES COLEGROVE REDISTRICTING MAP (NA)**

The North Adams School Committee last night approved a redistricting plan for the new Colegrove Park Elementary School. The plan is expected to affect about 100 children. IBerkshires.com reports that the committee modified the plan slightly to include the downtown commercial area. The redistricting plan was done by Transfinder Corp. of Schenectady, N.Y., and used boundary lines, major landmarks and current school district lines to develop the new plan.



**NA 05-11-15**

### **ADAMS FIREFIGHTERS SAVE HOME, KNOCK DOWN GARAGE BLAZE (NA)**

The Adams Fire Department saved a house on Saturday when they knocked down a fire that had engulfed the garage of a home on Bob's Hill, according to Fire Chief Paul Goyette. He told the Berkshire eagle that upon arrival the fire was intense enough where the siding was actually melting off the house. Goyette said he was the first on scene at roughly 2:09 p.m., followed by 20 fire department volunteers, Adams Police Department units and Adams Ambulance workers. Responders knocked the fire down by 2:30 p.m. and the department back in service by 3:40 p.m. The garage was destroyed by the fire and the home suffered siding damage and broken windows because of the heat. The cause of the fire has yet to be determined and remains under investigation.

### **BRTA MEETINGS TO HIGHLIGHT EFFICIENCIES (All)**

The Berkshire regional Transit Authority will continue its series of public meetings today, highlighting its service efficiencies, to comply with a regional transportation study. The general public is invited to take part and to comment. Three meetings were scheduled in all – one each in central, southern, and northern Berkshire County. The first of the three meeting was held at North Adams City Hall last Thursday. The two remaining meetings will both be held today. The first of which will take place at the Great Barrington Fire Station from 11am to 1pm and the second at the BRTA Intermodal Transportation Center in Pittsfield from 2:30pm to 4:30pm.

### **WILLIAMSTOWN'S CABLE MILLS PROJECT HEATS UP WITH SPRING THAW (NA)**

When the thaw came, dozens of workers swarmed over the Williamstown Cable Mills site and began working full-bore on moving the 61-unit, \$26 million housing redevelopment project closer to the finish line. The Berkshire Eagle reports that it was a welcome sign for a project that has been in limbo off and on since its inception in 2004. Developers with Mitchell Properties now hope to have the first of up to 200-plus residents moving into their new living spaces in December.

### **WILLIAMSTOWN ELECTION FEATURES FOUR-WAY RACE FOR SELECTMAN SEAT (NA)**

A four-way race for a selectman's seat highlights this year's Williamstown election. Polls will be open there from 7am to 8pm at Williamstown Elementary School tomorrow. The Berkshire Eagle reports that candidates for the three-year Board of Selectmen seat are Martino Donati, Jack Noguiera, Anne O'Connor and Alison O'Grady. Thomas Sheldon has held the seat since 2009 and is not seeking re-election. All four candidates spoke in favor of encouraging small business growth, attracting young families and keeping youth in town; and creating more affordable housing. And all expressed support for some type of building project at Mount Greylock Regional High School.

**NA 05-13-15**

**POLICE CONTINUE SEARCH FOR LEADS TO LEWIS LENT KILLINGS AT GREYLOCK GLEN (All)**

Law enforcement officials continue their search of the Greylock Glen in Adams today for leads related to the case of convicted child killer Lewis Lent Jr. The Berkshire eagle reports that after a second day at the site yesterday, officials would only say the effort will continue "on a smaller scale" today. Police have yet to reveal what precipitated the new activity related to the 20-plus year-old case. On Monday, state police officials would only say that "recently developed information suggested that area be searched."

**NORTH ADAMS PLANNERS APPROVE SHARED ARTISAN SPACE (NA)**

A new collaborative artist venture is expected to open on Main Street North Adams, by the end of June. IBerkshires.com reports that the Maker's Mill, a textile and paper shared-creative space, was approved on Monday night by the Planning Board to open at 73 Main Street, in the former I've Got Goodies chocolate shop, owned by Scarafoni & Associates. The Planning Board also approved the first steps in reorganizing the city's zoning ordinances, with a recommendation to the City Council. Once the board and City Council jointly approve that, the next phases will be actual modifications.

**NORTH ADAMS MAN WHO CHASED BEAR WITH HATCHET IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY (NA)**

A North Adams man was put into protective custody late Monday after he chased a bear through the woods with a dull hatchet near his home, according to North Adams Police. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to police, 60 year old Bradford Carpenter, of Park Avenue, apparently had a bit too much to drink before spotting the bear and giving chase. In a Facebook post that quickly went viral through the Berkshires on Monday night, the North Adams Police Department wrote that "the hatchet man" was safely in custody after he chased a bear through the woods. The post advised residents not to confront bears, but rather call the police for assistance.

**SAVOY TO WEIGH BUDGET WITH \$17,415 HIKE IN SCHOOL FUNDING (NA)**

Savoy Town officials will propose a fiscal 2016 budget that stays within the proposition 2 1/2 limits at Wednesday's annual town meeting. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. tonight in the Hilltown Hose Company. The \$1.74 million proposal includes few noteworthy increases other than a more than \$17,000 hike on local school funding, and a \$15,000 appropriation for veteran's services.

**O'CONNER ELECTED TO SELECT BOARD IN WILLIAMSTOWN (NA)**

Anne O'Connor received more than half the votes cast in the four-way race for a single three-year term on the Williamstown select board yesterday – as the town held its annual town election. IBerkshires.com reports that she received 440 votes to defeat Alison Roe O'Grady who received 141 votes. Martino Donati finished with 137 votes, and Jack Nogueira had 73. In a three-way race for two seats on the Williamstown Elementary School Committee, Catherine Keating and Joseph Johnson emerged victorious with 472 and 356 votes, respectively. Thomas Loughman was a close third with 341 votes.

**NA 05-18-15**

**NORTH ADAMS ARTIST, BUSINESSMAN ERIC RUDD RUNNING FOR MAYOR (NA)**

Now that he has officially announced his campaign to run for mayor OF North Adams, Eric Rudd is making it clear that he doesn't want to take sides. The Berkshire Eagle reports that he says he has nothing against current North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright, although he admits he would have done — and will do — a number of things differently. He says the same about former Mayor John Barrett III.

**MCLA GRADUATES CLASS OF 2015 (NA)**

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts awarded 417 degrees and certificates on Saturday at its 116th commencement. IBerkshires.com reports that the crowd in the Amsler Campus Center shouted and applauded as the graduates took to the stage to receive 366 bachelor's degrees, 26 masters of education, nine Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies and 16 Professional Masters of Business Administration degrees.

**MOUNT GREYLOCK BUILDING COMMITTEE SEES POTENTIAL DESIGNS (NA)**

The Mount Greylock Regional School Building Committee on Thursday looked at the pros and cons of nine different scenarios to create a more functional junior-senior high school. IBerkshires.com reports that as a June 4th deadline looms to submit a short list of finalists to the Massachusetts School Building Authority, the committee heard a presentation from its architect and received feedback from members of the community who attended the session in Mount Greylock's meeting room.

**CLARKSBURG SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT BUDGET (NA)**

The School Committee on Thursday accepted the school budget of \$2,487,736 for fiscal 2016. IBerkshires.com reports that the budget reflects a 2.6 percent increase from this fiscal year. Both the Selectmen and the Finance Committee approved the budget and the number will go to town meeting.

**BLUE MASS HONORS FIRST RESPONDERS (All)**

Those dedicated to spiritual healing honored the police, fire and emergency medical technicians devoted to protecting the public's physical well-being yesterday evening. The Berkshire Eagle reports that area priests, led by Monsignor Michael Shershanovich, pastor of St. Joseph Church in Pittsfield, gathered at the North Street house of worship to conduct a Blue Mass. The Catholic service attended by dozens of Berkshire County law enforcement officers, firefighters and EMTs paid tribute to public safety personnel active, retired and who died in the line of duty.

**BUFFIS TRIAL STARTS TODAY (GB-interest)**

The federal case against former Lee police chief Joseph Buffis on extortion, money laundering and wire fraud charges gets underway today in U.S. District Court in Springfield. Buffis is accused of stealing more than \$100,000 from the Laliberte Toy Fund over a 12-year period for his personal use. A separate charge of mail fraud, alleging Buffis added personal cell phone lines to Lee's town account for his family and incurring charges of more than \$5,000 will be taken up in a separate trial.



**NA 05-20-15**

**NORTH COUNTY CARES COALITION ADDRESS NORTH ADAMS COUNCIL ON AGING (NA)  
(Morning only)**

North County Cares Coalition members will be speaking at the North Adams Council on Aging/Mary Spitzer Senior Center this morning. The event comes as the debate continues over the need for and access to appropriate health care services to meet the needs of the residents of Northern Berkshire County following the closing of North Adams Regional Hospital. The event will feature a presentation by Nykole Roche, a researcher and associate director with the Massachusetts Nurses Association. The presentation will detail the findings of a comprehensive report on the disparities in health needs in Berkshire County, the impact of the closing of the hospital on meeting those needs and the data and rationale to support restoration of a full service hospital at Berkshire Medical Center North. The event begins at 10am at the center on Ashland Street.

**BUFFIS CASE UNDERWAY YESTERDAY (GB)**

The federal case against former Lee police chief Joseph Buffis on extortion, money laundering and wire fraud was scheduled to begin with jury selection yesterday. Buffis is accused of stealing more than \$100,000 from a holiday toy fund over a 12-year period for his personal use. Prosecutors say that between January 1999 and December 2012, Buffis removed about \$120,000 from the Edward J. Laliberte Toy Fund and later lied to investigators about it.

**COLEGROVE PARK ELEMENTARY WON'T BE READY FOR FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (NA)**

The North Adams Colegrove Park Elementary School will not be completed in time for the first day of school. The Berkshire Eagle reports that construction delays have moved the "substantial completion" date from July 22nd to August 16th, and an opening date in the fall has yet to be determined, according to Mayor Richard Alcombright. The August date will not give enough time for crews to furnish and test the building's facilities before the school year starts on September 2nd. But the project remains on target financially, and a delayed opening won't delay a redistricting plan that school officials approved earlier this month, according to Alcombright.

**MAYORAL CANDIDATE RUDD HAS CREATIVE VISION FOR NORTH ADAMS (NA)**

Well-known North Adams artist and developer Eric Rudd says he has the solutions for the city's woes. IBerkshires.com reports that Rudd believes his experiences as an artist, traveler, author, real estate developer, teacher and nonprofit leader will gel well with the needs of the city. There is process and regulations, he said, but he's sure he can make dramatic changes in the way North Adams operates right out of the gate. He's already grabbed the web address of [www.northadamsmayor.com](http://www.northadamsmayor.com) for his campaign.

**NA 05-20-15**

**DRUG CHARGES, THEFTS NET 2 1/2 YEARS IN JAIL FOR HINSDALE MAN (NA, P)**

A Hinsdale man was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in jail yesterday for a series of theft and drug-related crimes committed in 2013 and 2014. 29 year old Jeffrey Paris of Washington Road, was arrested on April 30 after a major drug investigation, collaborated on by federal, state, and local authorities over a span of several months, turned up evidence that he was a frequent buyer of heroin and cocaine, according to police. Paris also pleaded out on four other open cases against him, all of which revolved around a larceny or theft between 2013 and 2014.

**WILLIAMSTOWN PASSES PLASTIC BAG BAN BY-LAW (NA)**

Town meeting in Williamstown has passed bylaws to ban the distribution of single-use plastic bags and polystyrene food containers at retail establishments. The Berkshire Eagle reports that vby a vote of 205-81, town voters passed Article 41 on the annual town meeting warrant that called for the ban on single-use bags and a mandatory fee of 10 cents per paper bag distributed by local retailers. Voters then passed a companion bylaw aimed at polystyrene packages by a voice vote. But first, town voters rejected a proposal by the Board of Selectmen to refer both of the proposed bylaws to committee.

**SAVOY LINES UP MONEY FOR ROAD REPAIR (NA)**

Hurricane Irene may be slowly fading from memory in many Berkshire communities, but not for the residents of Savoy. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the August 2011 storm, which dumped more than 9 inches of rain on the town, wiped out a section of Black Brook Road — a key route connecting Route 2 with Savoy center and neighboring areas. The road has been closed for nearly four years now, and officials say they've finally lined up enough funding to rebuild it.

**POWER OUTAGE CAUSED BY RACCOON (NA)**

A large portion of the northern Berkshires was hit by a power outage yesterday morning. National Grid says that a raccoon that made its way into a sub-station in Adams. National Grid Spokesperson, Danielle Williamson said the outage affected more than 18,000 customers across the northern Berkshires, including North Adams, Adams, Williamstown, Clarksburg, Cheshire, Florida and Hancock. The outage lasted longer than two hours.

**NA 05-26-15**

**MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED COUNTY-WIDE YESTERDAY (All)**

The cities of Pittsfield and North Adams, and most towns around the Berkshires, north and south, held parades, ceremonies or both in observance of Memorial Day yesterday, in honor of all veterans who died defending America. The Memorial Day ceremonies were held throughout the county and country. The day also included the placing of flowers at memorials of war veterans. Memorial Day was started during the Civil War in 1868 to honor those who died during the nation's deadliest conflict.

**BERKSHIRE BANK ACQUIRES BOSTON-AREA FINANCIAL FIRM (All)**

Berkshire Hills Bancorp, the bank's holding company has announced that it has reached a definitive agreement to purchase privately held Firestone Financial Corp. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the longstanding commercial specialty finance company will become an operating subsidiary of Berkshire Bank. The transaction is subject to regulatory approvals and other customary closing conditions, which are expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2015.

**CHESHIRE & SCHOOL DISTRICT AGREE TO BETTER COMMUNICATIONS (NA)**

Selectmen, Adams Cheshire Regional School Committee members, and district administration agreed that the recent budget compromise was not handled properly and agreed to stronger communication in the future. IBerkshires.com reports that the Selectmen had said they felt as though the district was not communicating with them and keeping them out of last-minute budget negotiations with Adams after finding out that the certified school budget was altered after Adams moved \$93,000 from its municipal budget to the schools to avoid an override. Superintendent Kristen Gordon apologized to the Selectmen last week during a joint meeting with the School Committee and the Selectmen. She said things just moved too fast.

**WILLIAMSTOWN CON COMM OKS RESTORATION PLAN FOR WAUBEKA (NA)**

The Williamstown Conservation Commission has approved a restoration plan for a portion of denuded riverbank at Waubeeka Golf Links. IBerkshires.com reports that at its May 14th meeting, the commission reviewed a plan developed by a wetlands scientist from Guntlow & Associates and reviewed by officials at the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. Guntlow's Megan Myers appeared at the meeting to represent Waubeeka owner Michael Deep, who also attended the session. Commissioner Henry Art had some specific concerns about details in the plan, but the commission voted to approve an enforcement order subject to further discussion between Art and Myers.

**ADAMS FREE LIBRARY REDEDICATED (NA)**

Library trustees, staff, friends and patrons celebrated the completion of renovations to the 116-year-old Adams Free Library with a rededication ceremony on Saturday. IBerkshires.com reports that Library Director Deborah Bruneau thanked all those involved in the eight years of exterior and interior renovation. Along with the various other speakers, Bruneau unveiled a plaque dedicated to Ron Bishop, a former trustee and library patron who helped make the library what it is today. Bishop passed away in 2006.

**NA 05-28-15**

**CLARKSBURG TOWN MEETING OKS BUDGETS, BORROWING FOR ROAD WORK (NA)**

Clarksburg Town meeting last night voted overwhelmingly to fund the reconstruction of Horrigan Road. Voters gave authority to the select board to borrow \$65,000 to address culvert issues and to take out \$235,000 next year for the road project. IBerkshires.com reports that the second article appropriating \$58,000 from free cash into a new Department of Public Works stabilization fund passed 35-0. The third, which transferred some \$230,000 passed 36-0. The meeting was sparsely attended. Only about three dozen voters were on hand to determine the 25 articles on the annual town meeting warrant. Also approved were the school budget of some \$2.4 Million, and a town budget of more roughly \$1,358,000, and an assessment of about \$296,000 to McCann Technical School.

**LOCAL PILOTS PROVIDED AID DURING CLARKSBURG BRUSH FIRE (NA)**

North Adams Airport Manager William Greenwald said because of the helpfulness of local pilots during the recent brush fire in Clarksburg, the city may purchase aviation handheld radios. IBerkshires.com reports that he told the airport commissioners recently that many pilots were able to fly police, firefighters and Mayor Richard Alcombright over last month's brush fire to give them a vantage point. Aviation radios would cut down on disturbances and background noise and allow the planes to better communicate to ground crews. Greenwald said there are many pilots who be more than willing to donate their time and fuel to aid the city whether it be an emergency or just observation.

**NORTH ADAMS POLICE PERSONNEL COMMENDED FOR LIFE-SAVING ACTIONS (NA)**

Three members of the Police Department were publicly commended at Tuesday night's City Council meeting. IBerkshires.com is reporting that officer's Ben Austin and acting Sgt. Jason Wood and dispatcher Arthur Filkins were recognized for their actions in saving the life of an 85-year-old woman. The two officers, guided by Filkins, responded to the scene ahead of the ambulance to find the elderly woman choking. They immediately performed the Heimlich maneuver and were continuing to remove the food blockage when ambulance personnel arrived. Police Director Michael Cozzaglio said their actions showed their "level of commitment to the community."

**COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPS POINT (All)**

The Berkshire County unemployment rate fell more than a full percentage point in April to drop under five percent for the first time in seven years. According to figures released on Tuesday by the state Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, the local rate fell 1.1 percent, from 6.0 percent in March to 4.9 percent. According to the Berkshire County Regional Employment Board, the last time Berkshire unemployment was as low as 4.9 percent was in October 2008. The previous local low since then had been 5.3 percent last October.

**NA 06-02-15**

**ADAMS CRASH RESULTS IN OUI CHARGE (NA)**

A North Adams man was cited for operating while under the influence following a two-vehicle crash yesterday on Howland Avenue in Adams. The Berkshire Eagle reports that 63 year old Daniel Demarco was cited for OUI and for failing to use care in starting and turning, after he allegedly drove out of the Bounti-Fare parking lot and struck a passing Jeep. There were no reported serious injuries as a result of the crash occurred just before 6:30pm. According to police, the crash resulted in damage to the front end of Demarco's Mazda hatchback and to the side of the Jeep. The name of the other driver was not immediately available.

**VICTIM IDENTIFIED IN FLORIDA FATAL CRASH (NA)**

The victim in Saturday's fatal car crash in the town of Florida has been identified as 65 year old Richard Bean, of Conway. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to the Greenfield Recorder, Bean is a former selectman in the town of Conway. He was pronounced dead at the scene after his car crashed into a flatbed trailer that was parked off Route 2 near Brown's Garage about 7:30am, according to the Berkshire District Attorney's Office. There were no passengers in the vehicle.

**JOSEPH BUFFIS TRIAL UPDATE (GB – Interest)**

Joseph Buffis' sister in-law admitted on the stand yesterday that a letter she wrote in Buffis' defense and statements she made before the grand jury were inaccurate. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Susan Wheeler testified for the defense in Buffis' trial on federal extortion, fraud and money laundering charges. Buffis, the former Lee police chief, is on trial for allegedly stealing about \$120,000 from the Edward J. Laliberte Toy Fund during the approximately 12 years he ran it, lying to investigators about it, and coercing a Lee couple into donating \$4,000 into it in exchange for pending charges against them being dropped. His attorney said that Buffis is only guilty of being an incompetent bookkeeper. The trial is continues today. Closing arguments are tentatively scheduled for tomorrow.

**PRICE OF GAS REMAINS UNCHANGED (All)**

The price of a gallon of gasoline in the state remains unchanged, and is still well below the national average. AAA reports self-serve, regular remains unchanged from last week at an average of \$2.66 per gallon, 9 cents per gallon lower than the national average.

**STEEPLE CATS WILL OPEN SEASON A WEEK FROM THURSDAY (NA)**

The North Adams Steeplecats are getting set to get their 2015 season underway, and they'll be playing for first-year manager Mike Armstrong. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the team has already had their opener postponed – having supposed to play at Laconia on Thursday night, but the game was moved to Thursday, July 9th. The local high school is in the New Hampshire playoffs and has a home game that night. The SteepleCats will open there season now on Friday night at Keene and play its home opener against the Valley Blue Sox on Sunday afternoon.



**NA 06-04-15**

**\$25,000 BAIL SET FOR MAN HELD IN BERKSHIRES ON VERMONT FUGITIVE CHARGES (NA)**

A Vermont man wanted in his home state for aggravated domestic assault and drug charges will remain held on \$25,000 bail after his charges in Berkshire Superior Court are dropped by prosecutors. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Evan Cox, of Springfield, was arrested in March 2014 during a raid at a Pittsfield apartment by members of the U.S. Marshal's Service, the Pittsfield Police Department, Berkshire County Drug Task Force and the Massachusetts State Police Violent Fugitive Apprehension Squad.

**CDR PRESENTS TREE CITY USA AWARDS TO FOUR BERKSHIRE COMMUNITIES (All)**

Department of Conservation and Recreation Deputy Commissioner, Matthew Sisk, presented the Arbor Day Foundation's 2014 Tree City USA Award to 83 Massachusetts communities yesterday for their dedication to urban forestry management. The presentation was held at Hampshire College in Amherst. The City of Pittsfield – and the towns of Great Barrington, Sheffield, and Lanesborough were among the more than 60 cities and towns that were given the award. A Tree Line USA Award was given to utility provider National Grid in recognition of the company's practices in utility arboriculture. Both programs are sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation.

**MCCANN GRADUATES CLASS OF 2015 (NA)**

The graduating class of McCann Technical School was encouraged to remember its roots and dream big last night. The graduation was held at the Amsler Campus Center at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. IBerkshires.com reports that 114 students of the class of 2015 marched across the stage to be presented diplomas by School Committee Chairman Thomas Mahar and Superintendent James Brosnan.

**SPORTS CARAVAN AWARDS WINNERS (All)**

AM1420 WBEC in Pittsfield held its annual Sport Caravan Awards Dinner last night at the Crown Plaza in Pittsfield. The evening recognized the achievements of Berkshire County high school athletes and coaches. Several awards were given out deserving recipients. The Female Athlete of the Year Award went to Lucy Barrett from Mount Greylock High School. The Male Athlete of the Year Award went to Chad Shade of Pittsfield High School. Both Athletes of the year were also presented with scholarships from Pittsfield Cooperative Bank. Eryn Brewer, swimming coach at St. Joseph High School, was named the Coach of the Year in a Female Sport, and Don Disbrow, Wahconah High's hockey coach, was named Coach of the Year in a Male Sport. Also given out last night were MVP Awards for each individual male and female sport. Finally, the John Codey Official's Award was presented to Ed Ladley.

**MASSACHUSETTS TAX COLLECTIONS UP MORE THAN 13 PERCENT IN MAY (All)**

Massachusetts collected more than \$1.8 billion in taxes in May, a jump of \$214 million — or 13.2 percent — compared with last May. Department of Revenue Commissioner Mark Nunnally said a surge in withholding collections is largely responsible for the increase in revenues along with greater than expected income tax payments with returns and bills. With one month to go in the 2015 fiscal year, total year-to-date collections of more than \$22 billion are \$1.2 billion — or 5.9 percent — above that of a year ago and \$389 million above predictions.

**NA 06-09-15**

**EXTORTION CHARGE HAS JURORS AT ODDS (GB- INTEREST)**

Jurors returned with a question, but no verdict, in their second full day of deliberations yesterday in the trial of former Lee Police Chief Joseph Buffis, who stands accused of stealing roughly \$120,000 from the Edward J. Laliberte Toy Fund over an approximately 12-year span, lying to investigators about it and coercing a Lee couple into making a \$4,000 donation to it in exchange for charges against them being dropped. Shortly before 2 p.m., jurors notified the Judge that they had not reached a decision on the first charge — extortion — and asked for guidance on how to proceed. They were told that they could move on to the other charges against Buffis and afterward, come back to the disputed charges. Buffis faces a total of 11 counts; one of extortion, three of wire fraud and seven of money laundering.

**CHAIR AUCTION TO BE BIGGER THIS YEAR (NA)**

This year the Youth Center's Chair Auction in Adams will expand this year and will include different kinds of furniture and an artist walk down Park Street, where the chairs will be displayed. IBerkshires.com reports that Executive Director Youth Center Sonia DiSanti said the Youth Center has teamed up with Pro Adams to create a fundraising event that envelops the community even more than years prior.

**CONGRESSMAN SAYS ELECTRICS RATES THREATEN BERKSHIRE COUNTY (GB, All)**

Rising electric rates could threaten the local economy and federal and state lawmakers are seeking a long-term strategy to reel those costs in. So says U.S. Rep. Richard Neal. IBerkshires.com reports that Neal and the 4th District's U.S. Rep. Joseph Kennedy III visited Onyx Specialty Papers in Lee yesterday morning to see how those rates are impacting area businesses. Neal said Onyx could hire for an additional 70 jobs if energy costs were lower.

**CONCERTS AT WINDSOR LAKE KICKS OFF ON JUNE 10 (NA)**

The concerts at Windsor Lake in North Adams are back again for another summer of music and family fun. This year's extended season series kicks off tomorrow and runs every Wednesday at 6:30pm through Sept 2nd (excluding August 12 for the Downtown Celebration). The concerts combine great music vibes with the beautiful natural backdrop of Windsor Lake. Concert goers should bring blankets or chairs. Concessions will be available, but people are welcome to bring their own food. Limited quantities of beer and wine are also allowed. Parking is free, and swimming, fishing, kayaking, and canoeing are allowed at the lake. Rev Tor kicks off the concerts tomorrow night. The music will begin at 6:30pm.

**GAS PRICES UNCHANGED FROM LAST WEEK (All)**

Gas prices have leveled off, remaining unchanged from last week. AAA says self-serve, regular is selling for an average of \$2.66 per gallon. That's 9 cents lower than the national average and 98 cents lower than the in-state, per-gallon average from a year ago, but still 2 cents higher than a month ago.

**NA 06-11-15**

**TOWN MANAGER CANDIDATES TO INTERVIEW AND MEET AND GREET (NA)**

The public is invited to meet the two finalists for the Williamstown Town Manager position at a social hour from 5:30 to 7pm this evening at the Williams Inn. Jason Hoch has been the Town Administrator for Litchfield, New Hampshire since 2010. He was previously Town Manager in Plaistow and Littleton, New Hampshire. Angus Jennings currently owns and operates A.G. Jennings, a planning, zoning and real estate consulting firm in Concord, Massachusetts. He has previous experience in town government including being the Town Planner for Marshfield and Director of Land Use Management for Westford. The Selectmen will then interview the candidates individually tomorrow at 9:00am and at 12:00pm. The process will be broadcast live from Williamstown Town Hall on WilliNet-TV.

**NORTH ADAMS FISCAL 2016 SPENDING PLAN VOIDS USING RESERVE FUNDS (NA)**

A proposed fiscal 2016 spending plan in North Adams won't use any of the city's reserve funds and only eliminates one position. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Mayor Richard Alcombright on Tuesday presented the draft \$38.59 million budget to the City Council. The budget represents an increase of \$840,453, or 2.23 percent, over the current year. It calls for elimination of a part-time job in the city clerk's office. The council referred the budget and the compensation and classification plan to the Finance Committee, which will review both at 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 16th. The council would the vote on the budget at its June 23rd meeting.

**NORTH ADAMS MAN FACING FOURTH OUI CHARGE AFTER MISHAP (NA)**

A North Adams man is facing a fourth operating under the influence charge after allegedly knocking down a street sign last week on the traffic island near Marshall Street and St. Anthony's Drive. The Berkshire Eagle reports that 62 year old Walter Karl, of Yale Street, was driving erratically about 10 a.m. on June 2nd when he attempted to turn at the intersection, striking down a sign in the process, according to police. Karl was held on \$1,000 cash bail after pleading not guilty to charges of operating under the influence of liquor, fourth offense, and leaving the scene of property damage.

**NEARLY \$11K RAISED FOR NOAH'S FAMILY (NA - interest)**

A day after 8-year-old Noah Brown of Adams was struck and killed by a vehicle in front of his house, the details about the accident remain few, but support for the boy's family has been plentiful from the Northern Berkshire community and beyond. The Berkshire Eagle was reporting that a GoFundMe.com web page set up by former classmates of the boy's mother, Kayla Pierce, generated nearly \$11,000 in the first 19 hours of the campaign. That figure has risen to more than \$14,000 now. Noah and another child were trying to cross East Road to go to Noah's home around 3 p.m. on Tuesday when Noah was struck by a motor vehicle. The other child was not injured. Authorities have declined to identify the driver, who stopped at the scene.

**LANESBOROUGH TOWN MEETING APPROVES BUDGETS, REJECTS PIPELINE, DOCKS BYLAWS (NA, P)**

A total of 277 residents attended town meeting in Lanesborough this year. IBerkshires.com reports that the annual town meeting on Tuesday adopted the town's \$10.4 million budget nearly as proposed, including the Mount Greylock Regional School assessment. Voters also adopted a resolution to oppose the proposed natural gas pipeline and rejected new docks bylaws.



**NA 06-15-15**

**WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN PICKS NEXT TOWN MANAGER (NA)**

It took the Williamstown Board of Selectmen months to find the right person to be the next town manager. IBerkshires.com reports that the Selectmen on Friday voted unanimously to offer the job to Jason Hoch, currently the town administrator in Litchfield, N.H., south of Manchester. The Williamstown board picked Hoch after interviewing him and the other finalist for the position over the course of five hours. Pending successful negotiation of a contract with the town, Hoch is in line to succeed the highly regarded Peter Fohlin, who has served the town as its manager for 15. Fohlin announced his intention to retire this winter.

**CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL RAISES \$12,000 FOR LOCAL CHARITY (All)**

The First Annual Berkshire Craft Beer Festival and Charity Chug Run 5K, held on June 6<sup>th</sup> in Pittsfield, was apparently a great success. Event founders Jim Bronson and Matt Mottor said that the event was able to raise \$12,000 for the Fenn Street Community Development Corporation in Pittsfield, which aids the less fortunate of the city with meals and a food pantry. The non-profit also helps those in transition – and operates the HuB Youth Center on North Street in Pittsfield. Many local businesses helped to support the festival, and the local media including Gamma Broadcasting radio stations, Live 95, WBEC, WUPE, WNAW, and WSBS helped to spread the word. Over 1,200 people attended the event, and organizers counted 220 runners that took part in the Charity Chug Run.

**EXCELSIOR PRINTING DIVISIONS JOIN WITH CONNECTICUT COMPANY (NA)**

Excelsior Printing North Adams is shifting two of its operations to Integrity Graphics in Windsor, Conn. IBerkshires.com reports that Excelsior Printing and Seed-Print will be joining Integrity as of today, according to CEO and owner David Crane. The deal has been in the works for several weeks and employees had been notified there were changes coming. Sales and services will remain in North Adams and the company's other two divisions under Excelsior Integrated — Fulfillment and the Oatmeal Studios Greeting Cards — will continue at the Valley Mill in Lee.

**BOARD OF HEALTH WARY OF PLASTIC AND STYROFOAM BAN ARTICLES (NA)**

The Adams Board of Health will urge town meeting members to reject a plastic bag and Styrofoam ban articles because of lack of information. IBerkshires.com reports that Big Y representative David Smith met with the Board of Health to discuss Articles 32 and 33, which were placed on the warrant via citizen's petition and ban plastic bags and Styrofoam, and the impact it will have on business. He said the plastic bag ban, as written, will create problems for his store, which uses bags not considered reusable by the articles standards. He also said that the 25 cent charge for a bag in the article is too expensive compared to other communities that have adopted similar bans, and he thinks this extra amount will be difficult for many Adams residents to pay.

**NA 06-17-15**

**ECU-HEALTH CARE CHIEF STEPPING DOWN IN SEPTEMBER (NA - INTEREST)**

Charles Joffe-Halpern, executive director that Ecu-Health Care, is stepping down on September 1st. The Berkshire Eagle reports that he will be succeeded by Karen Baumbach, who is currently Ecu-Health Care's director of programs. The 65 year old Joffe-Halpern said he is leaving the company to explore other options. He says that after what he called an exciting 20 years, it was time for a transition and a fresh look. Joffe-Halpern has been the executive director of Ecu-HealthCare since the organization began in 1995. Ecu-Health Care was initially a volunteer physician program, but it became the Northern Berkshire's primary outreach and enrollment site, and a model program for the rest of the state.

**FURTHER DELAYS TO COLEGROVE PARK SCHOOL PROJECT RAISE IRE (NA)**

Already behind schedule, the \$30 million renovation of the former Silvio O. Conte Middle School could be delayed by at least another month, according to the general contractor in charge of the project. The Berkshire Eagle reports that city officials are not happy about it. A partner at PDS Engineering and Construction, told the School Building Committee on Monday that a recent partial wall collapse in the gymnasium will push back the completion date to the end of September. The school was scheduled to open this fall as Colegrove Park Elementary School, replacing the Sullivan Elementary School when it opens. The initial completion date of July 22nd already had been pushed back to August 31st, ending any hopes of it being ready for the first day of school.

**BATTALION HOCKEY PRIMED FOR RETURN TO NORTH ADAMS (NA)**

The owner of the Berkshire Battalion says the team is ready to come back for the 2015-16 Federal Hockey League season. IBerkshires.com reports that Bill Dadds, who purchased the franchise at the end of last season, said on Tuesday that he accepts the city of North Adams' restrictions on the number of Friday night games that will be available to the second-year semi-pro hockey franchise. The Battalion also has an opening for a Friday matinee on November 27th, the day after Thanksgiving. Some of the Battalion's fans took to social media to accuse the city of pushing the team out of the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Memorial Rink.

**SOLAR PROJECT CLEARED IN WILLIAMSTOWN (NA)**

The Conservation Commission in Williamstown on Thursday last week OK'd plans for a 1.9-megawatt solar project on the town's capped landfill. IBerkshires.com reports that the commission reviewed plans for the project with an engineer from Weston and Sampson of Peabody. The engineer said that the project will include about 6,000 solar photovoltaic panels on about 7 acres of the 12-acre site.

**NA 06-20-15**

**BERKSHIRE LEGISLATORS GATHER TONIGHT FOR EDUCATION FORUM (All)**

The Annual MASC Berkshire County Legislator Forum is being held tonight at Lee Middle & High School. The forum will include discussion and conversation focused on the future of education in the Berkshires, as well as FY16 legislation having critical impacts on Berkshire school districts. More specific topics to be discussed include: Sustaining strong educational opportunities in light of constantly increasing costs, low-state reimbursement for school choice, transportation funding and declining school age population. Members of the Berkshire Legislative Delegation will be on hand including Senator Ben Downing, and State Representatives Gailanne Cariddi, Paul Mark, Tricia Farley-Bouvier and Smitty Pignatelli. The forum begins at 6pm.

**PAVING ON TWO NORTH ADAMS STREETS TODAY (NA)**

Motorists in North Adams should be aware of a paving project taking place beginning today. North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright says that paving of both Brown Street and Demond Avenue starts this morning and should be completed by the end of the week. There may be possible road closures on the two streets until 4:30pm for the duration of the project. People are encouraged to find alternate routes of travel during the work hours throughout the week.

**NORTH ADAMS CITY COUNCILOR RAISING LOCAL AWARENESS OF APPALACHIAN TRAIL (NA)**

Hundreds of hikers pass through the city of North Adams while hiking the Appalachian Trail every year, but many residents don't even realize it's here. The Berkshire Eagle reports that City Councilor Joshua Moran is hoping to increase awareness of the historic trail, promote its use and foster a more welcoming community for hikers. He has spearheaded an initiative to have the city recognized as an Appalachian Trail Community, a status from nonprofit Appalachian Trail Conservancy designed to recognize communities that promote and protect the 2,180-mile trail. Great Barrington has held the status since 2010. Some 90 miles of the trail pass through Berkshire County, entering the state in Sheffield and ultimately passing over Mount Greylock. About five miles pass through North Adams.

**WORK SET TO BEGIN ON BERKSHIRE SCENIC RAILWAY IN NORTHERN BERKSHIRE (NA)**

Work on the Berkshire Scenic Railway is set to begin. All that is need now is permission to begin the work on rehabilitation of the railroad. And that word is expected any day now. The Berkshire Eagle reports that purchase agreements are expected to be finalized any time now that will transfer ownership from Pan Am Railways to the state Department of Transportation. The money for the purchase of the rail line and the work — \$4.5 million — was released in late March. The Berkshire Scenic Railway will run an 8-mile round trip from just behind the Brien Center on American Legion Drive in North Adams to the old Renfrew Station in Adams. Estimates show that the scenic rail line could initially attract as many as 10,000 riders annually.

**NA 06-20-15**

**NORTH ADAMS KICKS OFF ANNUAL FIREWORKS DONATION DRIVE (NA)**

The city of North Adams is calling on local businesses and members of the community to help support this year's fireworks display, which is again scheduled to take place at Noel Field Athletic Complex after the SteepleCats' home game on Saturday, July 4th. The show in North Adams is one of the largest in Berkshire County, drawing thousands of viewers from the capital region of New York State, southern Vermont and all of Berkshire County. Contributions are tax-deductible and all donors – large and small – will be acknowledged by iBerkshires.com and The Berkshire Eagle.

**POWNAI SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSSES SUMMER MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (NA)**

Pownal Elementary School's maintenance director, Kevin Davis, on Wednesday outlined several maintenance projects he hoped the board would fund over the summer. The Bennington Banner reports that Davis said the first project on his list was a blacktopping project, which would cost about \$12,000. However, he said, it could be done in two sections, to space out the expense, but doing it all at once would save the school about \$850.

**RESTORED AND RENOVATED MOHAWK TAVERN OPENING RIGHT ON TIME (NA)**

After nearly a year of restoration and renovation, the Mohawk Tavern is set to open — just days before thousands of music fans flood North Adams for Solid Sound 2015. The Berkshire Eagle reports that first established in North Adams in the 1930s and shut down in 2013, the Mohawk Tavern was purchased by developer Moresi and Associates in 2014 along with the rest of the Mulcare Block at 30 Marshall St. The Tavern is set to begin business on Monday, while adjacent Italian restaurant Grazie and six residential rental units upstairs will open in the fall.

**NA 06-29-15**

**NORTH ADAMS' COLEGROVE SCHOOL MAY OPEN IN NEW YEAR (NA)**

It could be the start of the New Year before the new elementary school open. IBerkshires.com reports that a date for Colegrove Park Elementary School's completion is unknown at this point. Construction delays led the general contractor to put the "substantial completion" date of the \$29.7 million project nearly a month later than scheduled. That date is also uncertain at this point. Architect Margo Jones said there's more work beyond a "substantially complete" date before the school can be occupied. The School Committee has already decided to move forward with redistricting for the beginning of the school year.

**BATALLION LEAVING NORTH ADAMS ANYWAY (NA)**

Less than two weeks after saying the Berkshire Battalion would return to North Adams for the 2015-16 season, the club's new owner said on Friday that he is taking it to Connecticut or New York. IBerkshires.com reports that Owner, Bill Dadds says he will provide bus service for several games, however it is unknown whether the North Adams fan base will enjoy a bus ride to Danbury, Conn., or Brewster, N.Y., the two towns Battalion owner Bill Dadds identified in a text on Friday - answering a request for comment.

**WILLIAMSTOWN ECONOMIC PANEL HEARS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES (NA)**

Williamstown's Economic Development Committee got an earful from the business community on Thursday. IBerkshires.com reports that parking for brick-and-mortar businesses, better Internet service for companies that want to do business online and less red tape for all were some of the common concerns at a forum hosted by the committee. Committee member Stephen Sheppard says it's a serious problem and a constraint to business.

**HEMOCARE WORKERS AGREE TO \$15 GOAL BY 2018 (All)**

Home care workers in the state from Boston to the Berkshires say a newly agreed upon contract extension with the state will make them the first in the nation to receive a \$15 an hour starting wage. According to 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, which represents 35,000 home care workers, the personal care attendants planned a picket Tuesday to protest their contract terms but instead will hold a celebration outside the State House in Boston Tuesday afternoon. According to the Baker administration, the agreement will deliver a 30 cent per hour raise on July 1st with the "mutual goal" of establishing a \$15 per hour wage in 2018. The one-year agreement calls for parties to restart contract talks by January 1st, 2016, according to state officials, who cited a new "pathway" to the \$15 an hour goal.

**SOLID SOUND ATTENDED WELL (NA)**

The Solid Sound Festival was held over the weekend bringing a lot of traffic into the city of North Adams. The Berkshire eagle reports that despite the rain and chilly temperatures, attendance at the final day of the band Wilco's Solid Sound Festival topped 7,000, which is a greater number than was counted in 2013, the last time the festival was held at Mass MoCA.



#### **BRIEN CENTER UNION VOTES TO STRIKE ON JULY 6 (NA, P)**

Some 350 union workers at the Brien Center have voted to go on strike on July 6th if contract negotiations fail to resolve pay and benefits issues. IBerkshires.com reports that center officials say they will be meeting with a federal mediator on June 30th and plan to continue operations at the mental health and substance abuse agency should the strike occur. Service Employees International Union 509 and Brien Center management have been at a stand-off since last September. Workers held informational pickets outside the Brien Center's offices in North Adams and Pittsfield in March. SEIU representatives say the strike could result in the closure of the nonprofit agency, affecting the health care of thousands of county residents.

#### **BIG Y RECALLS BOTTLED SPRING WATER FOLLOWING POSSIBLE E. COLI CONTAMINATION (All)**

Big Y is one of several companies voluntarily recalling bottled spring water products produced by Niagara Bottled Water at its Pennsylvania manufacturing facilities between June 10th and 18th. According to the recall notice issued by Big Y, the recall is due to the possible presence of E. coli. No complaints of injury or illness have been associated with this recall at this time.

#### **ADAMS TO WEIGH \$14.3 MILLION BUDGET, 6 PERCENT HIKE FOR SCHOOLS (NA)**

Adams Officials hope to pass a \$14.3 million budget, including the full funding requested by the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District, at Tuesday's annual town meeting. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the town spending plan, an increase of about \$323,000 over last year's budget, calls for the elimination of the town health inspector position and two additional staff reductions through attrition. The budget still includes a 6 percent increase in assessment to the school district, even after the Cheshire voters last week rejected a Proposition 2 1/2 override on the school funding.

#### **NORTH ADAMS MAN ALLEGEDLY TOOK MEDS LEFT BEHIND AT BIG Y (NA)**

A North Adams man has been accused of taking a bagful of prescription medications that were accidentally left behind at a Big Y checkout by the caretaker of a mentally ill man. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to a probable cause report filed by North Adams Police Officer Brad Vivori, 28 year old Francis Albis Jr. was allegedly captured in store security footage looking into a bag of prescription medication left near the bagging station by a previous customer before adding it to his own groceries on June 8th. Albis was released on personal recognizance yesterday after his arraignment in Northern Berkshire District Court on charges of class E drug possession and larceny over \$250. He is due to reappear in court on July 3 for a pretrial hearing.

#### **WILLIAMSTOWN PIZZA SHOP CLOSED BY DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE (NA)**

The new proprietor of Colonial Pizza in Williamstown said on Friday that he is not sure when the business will be able to reopen. IBerkshires.com reports that according to Steven Peltier, the pizza shop in Main Street's Colonial Plaza was closed last Thursday when its equipment was seized by the state Department of Revenue because taxes not paid by the shop's former proprietor, Constantine Anagnos. A member of the Anagnos family said over the weekend that the family is working to get a payment plan in place with the state.

**WUPE 100.1FM**  
**North Adams, Massachusetts**  
**ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT**

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APRIL – MAY – JUNE

2015

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS are a staple party of the broadcast day on WUPE-FM. PSA's are aired free of charge whenever possible during the broadcast day. Gamma Broadcasting urges residents to fax, email or mail us public service announcements.

Gamma Broadcasting 2015

**HINSDALE LIONS CLUB BINGO  
ENDS TUES, APR 7  
MD**

**THE HINSDALE LIONS CLUB IS WAKING UP FROM A LONG WINTER  
AND IS BRINGING BACK BINGO NIGHT ON TUESDAY, APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>.  
DOORS OPEN AT 5PM WITH THE GAME KICKING OFF AT 6:30. IT'S  
A PROGRESSIVE GAME WITH PULL TICKETS, DINNER, AND SNACK  
ITEMS. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MERRI SEIDL AT 443-3537.**

Tue: April 7 at Hinsdale Lions Club

335 Maple St, Hinsdale



**WINE TASTING  
ENDS FRI APR 10<sup>th</sup>  
MD**

UNICO IS HOLDING THEIR 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WINE TASTING AT THE  
BERKSHIRE HILLS COUNTRY CLUB ON FRIDAY, APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>.  
FOR JUST 25 DOLLARS, YOU CAN ENJOY A LARGE  
SELECTION OF WINES, BEERS, AND SPIRITS FROM AROUND  
THE WORLD, ALONGSIDE A SILENT AUCTION, FOOD, AND A  
LOT OF DANCING. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LOCAL CHARITIES  
AND SCHOLARSHIPS TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN NEED.  
EVENT STARTS AT 6. YOU CAN PICK UP TICKETS AT ELM ST.  
HARDWARE OR DITORE MOTORS. FOR INFO, VISIT [UNICO-OF-  
PITTSFIELD-DOT-ORG](http://UNICO-OF-PITTSFIELD-DOT-ORG).

Kill April 4=10<sup>th</sup>

Berkshire Hills Country Club, 500 Benedict Rd. Pittsfield

**LENTEN FISH BAKE  
ENDS FRI, APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>  
MD**

**THE PITTSFIELD ELKS CLUB INVITES YOU TO THEIR 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL  
LENTEN FISH BAKE THEY'RE HOSTING EVERY FRIDAY DURING  
LENT. ON THE MENU IS FISH, SALAD, BREAD & BUTTER, CHEF'S  
CHOICE OF POTATO & VEGETABLE, AND DESSERT. DOORS OPEN  
AT 4PM AND EARLY BIRDS DINING UNTIL 5PM DINE PAY JUST 8\$.  
AFTER THAT, IT IS \$10. LOUNGE IS OPEN UNTIL 10PM. ALL  
PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT ELKS CHARITIES. THE LAST FISH BAKE  
IS GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>.**

Fri: Apr 3

Pittsfield Elks Club – 27 Union St. Pittsfield

**VEGETARIAN TASTING  
ENDS SUN, APR 11  
MD**

THE LANESBORO BETTER LIVING CENTER INVITES YOU TO A FREE VEGETARIAN TASTING EVENT SUNDAY THE 11TH AT 6PM. YOU CAN LEARN HOW TO COOK HEALTHY AND TASTY SOUPS STARTING AT 6PM AT THE CENTER LOCATED INSIDE THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN LANESBORO. A SAMPLING WILL BE HELD AFTER THE DEMOSTRATION. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT A FULL COURSE MEAL. DRAWINGS AND PRIZES WILL ALSO BE GIVEN. FOR MORE INFO, CALL 413-442-5511

Kill April 11<sup>th</sup>

Lanesboro Better Living Center: 900 State Rd/ Rt8 in Lanesboro, MA.

**TURKEY DINNER  
ENDS SAT, APR 25  
MD**

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH INVITES YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER ON SATURDAY, APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>. DINNER WILL BE SERVED FAMILY STYLE STARTING AT 5PM AND ENDING AT 6:30PM. YOU CAN FILL YOUR PLATE WITH TURKEY, MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY, BEANS, CORN, SALAD, BREAD, AND HOMEMADE PIES FOR DESSERT. A DONATION OF \$10 IS REQUESTED FOR ADULTS AND \$5 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12. TAKE OUT IS AVAILABLE. PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CAMPERSHIP FUND AND THE FOOD PANTRY OF THE CHURCH. CALL EVELYN AT 413 – 442 – 8592.

Kill April 25<sup>th</sup>

First Baptist church – 88 South St in Pittsfield

**FISHING DERBY  
ENDS SAT, JUN 6<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

**THE 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL HARRY A. BATEMAN JIMMY FUND FISHING  
DERBY TAKES PLACE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>. TO  
PARTICIPATE, YOU NEED TO REGISTER AT THE FRANK  
CONTROY PAVILION AT ONOTA LAKE. ADULTS ARE \$10 AND  
KIDS 14 YEARS AND YOUNGER ARE \$5. YOU DO NOT NEED A  
FISHING LICENSE FOR THIS EVENT. EVENT RUNS FROM 6 IN  
THE MORNING TO 12 NOON. WEIGH IN IS AT NOON SHARP.  
FOR MORE INFO, VISIT THEIR EVENT PAGE AT FACEBOOK AT  
[HARRY-BATEMAN-FISHING-DERBY](#).**

Sat: Jun 6 at Onota Lake

Advance tickets can be purchased at Avid Sports on W. Housatonic St.... Dave's Sporting Goods on North Street... and Onota Boat Livery on Pecks Road.

**ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST  
ENDS SUN, JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

HOW DOES AN ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST SOUND? THE UPTON LODGE OF MASONS A.F. AND A.M. ARE HOSING AN ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH. THE FEAST STARTS AT 8AM UNTIL 11:30. A DONATION OF \$8 FOR ADULTS, \$7 FOR SENIORS, AND \$6 FOR KIDS GETS YOU IN. YOU CAN ALSO TAKE YOUR MEAL TO GO. THESE BUFFETS WILL BE HELD ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL VERN EMERSON AT 743-3874

Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> 8:00 at The Upton Lodge  
120 Church Street, Cheshire



**LITERACY VOLUNTEER  
ENDS WED, JUN 10th  
MD**

**HAVE YOU EVER VISITED A FOREIGN COUNTRY AND FELT LOST BECAUSE YOU DON'T SPEAK THE LANGUAGE? THE LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY WANT TO HELP NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING RESIDENTS FROM FEELING THE SAME WAY. INTERESTED IN HELPING AN IMMIGRANT LEARN ENGLISH? BECOME A TUTOR AND CONTACT KAREN WALLACE FROM THE LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY AT 499 - 9847. TRAINING STARTS JUNE 10.**

Wed: Jun 10

**RELAY FOR LIFE  
ENDS SAT, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

**THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH BERKSHIRE RELAY FOR LIFE IS  
LOOKING FOR BANDS TO PERFORM AT THIS YEAR'S RELAY EVENT  
AT MONUMENT MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ON JUNE  
19TH AND 20TH. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TO PERFORM AT RELAY,  
CONTACT GARFIELD REED BY CALLING: 413-528-4127 OR  
EMAILING [GREED@GABLANCO.COM](mailto:GREED@GABLANCO.COM)**

Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

**ALLELUIA ALFREDO  
ENDS SATURDAY, MAY 16  
MD**

**THE DALTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH INVITES YOU TO  
THEIR ALLELUIA ALFREDO SUPPER THIS SATURDAY. FOR  
JUST 10 DOLLARS, YOU CAN FILL YOUR PLATE WITH  
FETTUCCHINE ALFREDO, BROCCOLI, CHICKEN, SOUP, AND  
DESSERT. YOU CAN EVEN TAKE YOUR MEAL TO GO. KIDS 6  
TO 12 EAT FOR JUST FIVE BUCKS AND CHILDREN 5 AND  
UNDER ARE FREE. DOORS OPEN AT 5. FOR MORE  
INFORMATION, CALL 413-684-0521.**

Saturday: May 16 at the Dalton United Methodist Church from 5 – 7pm

755 Main Street, Dalton

**DINING IN THE DARK  
ENDS THUR, JUNE 18TH<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

**THE BERKSHIRE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND  
AND UNICO INVITE YOU TO THEIR NEXT EVENT: DINING IN THE  
DARK AT THE ITAM LODGE ON THURSDAY JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>. THIS  
EVENT AIMS TO HELP RAISE AWARENESS OF THE  
EXPERIENCES OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED. DOORS OPEN AT  
5 AND A PASTA DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 6:30PM. FOR  
MORE INFORMATION, CALL LAURA AT 442-3270.**

Thur: June 18<sup>th</sup> at Itam Lodge

22 Waubeek Rd. Pittsfield

**RUN TO HOME BASE  
ENDS SAT, JUL 25<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

THE RED SOX FOUNDATION HOME BASE PROGRAM IS TEAMING UP WITH NEW BALANCE AND MASS GENERAL HOSPITAL FOR THE 2015 RUN TO HOME BASE AT FENWAY PARK ON JUL 25<sup>TH</sup>. REGISTER NOW TO DONATE, RUN AT THE EVENT, OR PARTICIPATE AS A VIRTUAL RUNNER. PROCEEDS HELP LOCAL POST 9/11 VETERANS RETURNING FROM AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ. EVENT BEGINS AT 8AM. FOR MORE INFO OR TO SIGN UP, VISIT [RUN-TO-HOME-BASE-DOT-ORG](http://RUN-TO-HOME-BASE-DOT-ORG).

Sat: Jul 25<sup>th</sup> at Fenway Park, Boston

**RALLY FOR A CURE  
ENDS SAT, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

**FORE! THE WORTHINGTON GOLF CLUB IS HOSTING RALLY  
FOR A CURE, A GOLF TOURNAMENT FUND RAISER TO  
BENEFIT THE SUSAN G KOMEN BREAST CANCER  
FOUNDATION ON JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup>. THERE WILL BE A WOMEN'S  
AND MEN'S DIVISION FOR AN 18 HOLE 2-PERSON TEAM AND 9  
SCRAMBLE – 9 SCOTCH. THERE'S ALSO A PUTTING CONTEST  
WITH A CASH PRIZE. START TIME IS AT 11AM SHARP. TEAMS  
SIGN UP FOR A DONATION OF \$120, WHICH ALSO COVERS  
CART, TOURNAMENT, LONGEST DRIVE, AND PIN PRIZES.  
AFTER THE TOURNAMENT, DON'T MISS A SPECIAL COCKTAIL  
PARTY WITH A SPECIALTY HORS D'OEUVRE BUFFET. TO  
REGISTER, CALL 238 – 4664.**

Sat: June 27. At Worthington Golf Club  
RAIN DATE: JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup>



**WEST STOCKBRIDGE CHURCH BAKE SALE  
ENDS SAT, JUL 18<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

**THE WEST STOCKBRIDGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH INVITES  
YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL BAKE SALE ON SATURDAY, JULY 18<sup>TH</sup> IN  
FRONT OF BALDWIN'S EXTRACTS ON CENTER STREET IN WEST  
STOCKBRIDGE. CHURCH MEMBERS WILL BE SELLING AN ARRAY  
OF TREATS, SWEET AND SAVORY, LIKE COOKIES, PIES,  
BROWNIES, BREADS, AND DEVEILED EGGS. FOR MORE  
INFORMATION, DIAL 413-232-4256**

Ends Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>  
Baldwin Extracts - 1 Center St, West Stockbridge, MA

**UNDERMOUNTAIN GOLF TOURNAMENT  
ENDS WED, JUL 21<sup>ST</sup>  
MD**

**ENJOY A ROUND OF GOLF AT UNDERMOUNTAIN GOLF COURSE IN  
COPAKE, WIN PRIZES, AND EAT DELICIOUS FOOD AT THE EIGHTH  
ANNUAL ROELIFF JANSEN COMMUNITY LIBRARY GOLF  
TOURNAMENT ON SUNDAY, JULY 26. REGISTRATION IS \$75 PER  
PERSON AND MEMBERS OF UNDERMOUNTAIN PAY \$60. NON-  
GOLFERS ONLY PAY \$20 AND IT INCLUDES DINNER. SEND IN YOUR  
REGISTRATION BY THE 21ST. ALL ENTRIES HELP SUPPORT THE  
ROE JAN COMMUNITY LIBRARY. FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT UNDERMOUNTAIN GOLF COURSE AT (518) 329-4444.**

Ends Wed, July 21.

274 Under Mountain Rd, Copake, NY

**GB ROTARY GOLF TOURNAMENT  
END THUR JULY 23  
MD**

**THE GREAT BARRINGTON ROTARY CLUB INVITES YOU TO ITS  
'DRIVE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS' GOLF TOURNAMENT ON THURSDAY  
JULY 23RD AT THE WYANTENUCK COUNTRY CLUB. SHOT GUN  
BEGINS AT 9 IN THE MORNING. ALSO, THE GRAND PRIZE WINNER  
OF THE ROTARY RAFFLE WILL ALSO BE DRAWN. TWO LUCKY  
WINNERS WILL WIN OVER 2 DOZEN RESTAURANT CERTIFICATES.  
TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT \$5 DOLLARS OR FIVE FOR 20  
DOLLARS. ALL PROCEEDS HELP SUPPORT ROTARY  
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LOCAL STUDENTS. VISIT  
[G B HYPHEN ROTARY DOT ORG](http://GBHYPHENROTARY.ORG) FOR MORE DETAILS.**

Thur: July 23  
Wyantenuck Country Club - 46 W Sheffield Rd, Great Barrington

**PENNY SOCIAL  
ENDS SUN, JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

**ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH INVITES YOU TO THEIR PENNY SOCIAL  
ON SUNDAY, JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>. DOORS OPEN AT 1PM AND THE  
DRAWING WILL BEGIN AT 2PM. THE KITCHEN WILL BE OPEN  
FOR LIGHT FARE. FOR MORE INFO CALL 442 - 8018**

Sunday: June 7<sup>th</sup> at 1PM

Corner of Dalton Ave and Benedict Rd.

**20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MOTORCYCLE RUN  
ENDS SAT, JUL 25<sup>TH</sup>  
MD**

**THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JIMMY BERNARDO MEMORIAL MOTORCYCLE  
RUN IS SATURDAY, JULY 25<sup>TH</sup>. THIS FUN FILLED DAY WILL  
INCLUDE MUSIC BY BERKSHIRE COUNTY'S FAVORITE BANDS.  
PRE-REGISTRATION FOR THE EVENT IS ENCOURAGED.  
SUGGESTED DONATION IS \$25 TO SIGN UP. THE STARTING  
LOCATION IS AT 66 WENDELL AVENUE, ACROSS FROM THE  
BERKSHIRE COUNTY KID'S PLACE, WHERE ALL PROCEEDS ARE  
GOING. BIKES LEAVE AT 11AM. SHARP. A POST RIDE PARTY WILL  
BE HELD AT BOSQUET. FOR MORE INFO CALL 499-2800.**

Starts Sat July 25th at 66 Wendell Ave

11am. Sharp.

**WUPE 100.1FM**

**North Adams, Massachusetts**

## **ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT**

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APRIL – MAY – JUNE

2015

COMMONWEALTH JOURNAL

A weekly syndicated program featuring interviews and guest speakers talking about education, arts, children, religion and many other topics. Also airs on WUPE-AM, WBEC-FM 95.9 and WBEC-1420AM.

Gamma Broadcasting 2015



Quarterly Issues/Program List for July 2014-September 2014. The following is a listing of the significant issues responded to by the following stations: WHAB-FM Acton, WUNR-Boston/Brookline, WEEI-AM Boston, WRCA-AM Cambridge, WEIM-AM Fitchburg, WSBS-AM Great Barrington, WLYN-AM Lynn, WAZN-AM Marlborough, WBSM-AM New Bedford/Fairhaven, WDIS-AM Norfolk, WNAW-AM North Adams, WUMD-FM North Dartmouth, WZLX-FM North Hampton, WUHN-AM Pittsfield, WEEI-FM Providence, WBSL-FM Sheffield, WVEI-FM Springfield, WAZN-AM Watertown, WAAF-FM Worcester, WVEI-AM Worcester, WUMB-FM Boston, WBPR-FM Worcester, WUMG Stow, WUMT-FM Marshfield, WUMV-FM Milford, WFPB-AM Orleans, along with the most significant treatment of those issues

Program Issue	Date	WUMB Air Time	Program Name	Narrative of Type, Description of Issue
Educational	6/28/2015	7pm	The Death of Prehistory	Stephen A. Mrozowski, Editor, speaks about the book The Death of Prehistory, the fourteen essays, by notable archaeologists of the Americas, Africa, Europe, and Asia, provide authoritative examples of how the concept of prehistory has diminished histories of other cultures outside the West and how archaeologists can reclaim more inclusive histories set within the idiom of deep histories—accepting ancient pre-literate histories as an integral part of the flow of human history. 28:15
Dev. & Use of Local Talent	6/21/2015	7pm	The Founding of Gonofone & Grameenphone Working Toward Social, Racial & Gender Equality in Boston	Iqbal Quadir, Founder of Gonofone/Grameenphone, Founder & Director of the Legatum Center for Development & Entrepreneurship at MIT speaks about what led him to develop these cell phone business for Bangladesh, the history and the future. 28:10
Public Affairs/Minoritys	6/14/2015	7pm		Sylvia Ferrel-Jones, President and CEO, YWCA Boston speaks about what the YWCA is doing to further equality in the Boston area. 28.16
Public Affairs/Politics	6/7/2015	7pm	Turmoil & Transition	Author, Attorney & Politician, Larry Dicara, speaks about his memoir "Turmoil & Transition in Boston: A Political Memoir From the Busing Era. 28:12
Educational	5/31/2015	7pm	When to Fight Nature & When Not To Commonwealth Journal: A Documentary About Collectors of Racist	Sarah Oktay, Director of UMass Boston's Nantucket Field Station, discusses it's best to let nature take its course & when we should intervene. 28:04
Educational/local talent	5/24/2015	7pm		Chico Colvard, Filmmaker, speaks about his new project in which he explores the phenomenon of racist memorabilia as a collectors item 29:00

Public Affairs	5/17/2015	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry Campaign Commonwealth	Billy Shore, Founder and CEO of Share Our Strength speaks about their No Kid Hungry campaign that provides food for low income families during the summer months 28:00
Public Service	5/10/2015	7pm	Journal: Opportunity Nation; Expanding Access to Opportunities for Success Locally and Nationally	Mark Edwards, Executive Director of Opportunity Nation, discusses the the programs mission of expanding access to opportunities for success locally and nationally 28:00
Educational/Politics	5/3/2015	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: UMass Boston Role in International Mediation and Dispute Resolution	Professors Eben Weitzman and Darren Kew, McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, discuss UMB's global peace endeavors 28:00
Public Affairs	4/26/2015	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Bgreater Boston Chamber of Commerce	Paul Guzzi, President and CEO of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce discusses the importance of the MA Archives 28:00
Public Affairs	4/19/2015	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Boston's Orange Line	Jeremy C. Fox-Boston Globe Correspondent & Andrew Elder -UMass Boston Archivist and Board Member at the History Project, discuss how the history of Boston's Orange Line is a time line of the growth of Boston. The also speak about their photojournalism book "Boston's Orange Line: Images of Rail" . 28:15
Public Affairs/Service to Minority Groups	4/12/2015	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: The Boston Foundation	Paul Grogan-President and CEO of The Boston Foundation, speaks about how his organization helps to set the civic agenda for the entire region, as well as some of projects they are involved in. 28:00

# **WUPE 100.1FM**

**Pittsfield, Massachusetts**

## **ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT**

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APRIL – MAY – JUNE

2015

### **VIEWPOINTS**

This is a sample of Viewpoint programs aired during this quarter of 2015.  
The program airs at 8:00 A.M. on WBEC-FM.

Gamma Broadcasting 2015

# ***Viewpoints®***

## Quarterly Issues Report – Q2 2015 Viewpoints Programs 15-14 through 15-26

During Q2 2015 the following compliancy issues were covered:

African-American Issues	Judicial System
Agriculture	Labor & Employment
American History	Law Enforcement Careers & Employment
Arts & Literature	Marketing
Bullying	Math & Science Education
Business	Media
Children & Family Issues	Medicine
Climate Change	Mental Health
Communications & Media	Military
Community Action	Personal Finance
Consumer Issues	Politics
Crime Technology	Poverty
Disabled	Privacy
Drinking and Driving (boating)	Productivity
Economics	Public Safety
Education	Race
Elderly	Recreation & Leisure
Employment	Refugee Relief
Environment	Religion
Ethnic Concerns	Retirement Issues
Family Issues	Science
Finance	Social Media
Government	Technology
Health & Nutrition	The Arts
Health and Well-Being	Transportation
Healthcare	War & Military
Higher Education	Women's Issues
History	Work-life Balance
Immigrant Workers	
International Politics	

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Race; Religion; Ethnic Concerns; Education; Media	<b>Program # 15-14</b> Segment 1	<b>4-5-15</b>	10:37	<p><b>Race and Diversity: Can it be taught in schools?</b></p> <p>Synopsis: Can race be taught as a school subject, like chemistry and foreign language? And if so, what kinds of curricula are best for making students understand how other races fit into and benefit society? We talk to two researchers about the answers to these questions and take a slightly different look at race, ethnicity, religion and how they affect our perceptions of the world.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Lawrence Blum, Prof. of Philosophy, Dist. Prof. of Liberal Arts &amp; Education, Univ. of Massachusetts, Boston, author of "High Schools, Race and America's Future: What can students teach us about morality, diversity, and community." Todd Pittinsky, Prof. in the Dept. of Technology and Society, SUNY-Stony Brook, lecturer at Harvard Univ., author of "Us + Them: Tapping the positive power of difference."</p>
Employment; Crime	<b>Program # 15-14</b> Segment 2	<b>4-5-15</b>	10:53	<p><b>Liar, Liar: How questioners get at the truth</b></p> <p>Synopsis: How do professionals question people to get the information they want? We talk to a specialist on interrogation and lying about this topic, and how law enforcement and job interviewers use the same tactics to get to the truth and find out if someone might be lying to them.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Maryann Karinch, a human behavior expert and author of the book, "Nothing But the Truth: Secrets from top intelligence experts to control the conversation and get the information you need."</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Technology; Crime; Privacy; Family Issues; Economics; Law Enforcement	<b>Program #15-15 Segment 1</b>	<b>4-12-15</b>	11:14	<p><b>Future Crimes: Cybercrime in business and in our homes is growing</b></p> <p>Synopsis: We've all learned how to become more careful about protecting our credit card and financial information from hackers. However, there are new ways that criminals can invade our privacy and, often, there's little the police can do about it. We talk to a cyber-security expert and a technology attorney about the new threats to privacy – and even personal safety – and how we can protect ourselves from intrusions into our homes and lives.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Marc Goodman, author of "Future Crimes: Everything is connected, everyone is vulnerable and what we can do about it"; Adam Rouse, Legal Fellow for the Institute for Science, Law and Technology, IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law.</p>
Careers & Employment; Business; Education	<b>Program #15-15 Segment 2</b>	<b>4-12-15</b>		<p><b>Roadmap: Learning to incorporate your dreams into your life</b></p> <p>Synopsis: Not everyone is able to follow their dream into a career that they truly love. People have debt, family obligations and are possibly just not talented enough to make a living working at what they've always dreamed of doing. Our guest says that he's talked to people who have found ways of incorporating their dreams into their lives in very creative – and lucrative -- ways, and he'll pass along some advice on just how to do it.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guest: Nathan Gebhard, co-creator of the PBS documentary series "Roadtrip Nation," and co-author of the book, "Roadmap: The get-it-together guide for figuring out what to do with your life."</p>



Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Recreation & Leisure; Transportation; Economy; Government; Personal Finance	<b>Program #15-16 Segment 1</b>	<b>4-19-15</b>	10:49	<p><b>Spring &amp; Summer Travel: Saving time, Money and Aggravation</b></p> <p>Synopsis: The spring and summer travel seasons are here and Americans are planning their vacation trips both online and through travel agents. We'll talk to two travel experts about where the action is this season, how to get more for your travel dollars, and hear some tips and tricks for making your travel less aggravating and more fun.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Chris McGinnis, business and leisure travel guru, blogger and contributor to Best Western's travel website, <i>You Must Be Trippin.com</i>; Mark Murphy, travel expert, CEO of <i>Travelpulse.com</i>.</p>
Communications; Technology; Social Media; Family Issues; Bullying	<b>Program #15-16 Segment 2</b>	<b>4-19-15</b>	10:48	<p><b>The Joy of Missing Out: Getting of the Internet</b></p> <p>Synopsis: With emails, spam, texts and instant messaging it's a wonder we ever have time anymore to just sit and relax with family and friends. At the office, we spend so much time online, how do we get anything done...or done well? That's what worried our guest who took a 31-day vacation from the Internet to reconnect with her loved-ones and learn about how online life needs to be balanced with face-to-face communications and relaxation.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Christina Crook, communications professional and author of the book, <i>The Joy of Missing Out: Finding balance in a wired world</i>.</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Math & Science Education; Technology; Children's Issues	<b>Program #15-17 Segment 1</b>	<b>4-26-15</b>	9:00	<p><b>Astrotwins: An Astronaut talks about Science and Math Education</b></p> <p>Synopsis: As a kid, did you ever dream of being an astronaut and flying a rocket ship into space, but figured you weren't good enough in science and math to do it? Our guest, a former U.S. astronaut admits he wasn't the best young student in school in those subjects, but later on he grew fascinated by them and turned his newfound interest into becoming a Navy pilot and then a member of NASA's Space Shuttle team. He talks about his new young readers' book, and how he hopes it will encourage boys and girls to go into science, math and engineering.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guest: Mark Kelly, retired astronaut, author of the novel, "Astrotwins: Project Blastoff," a young reader book.</p>
Marketing; Business; The Arts; Consumer Issues	<b>Program #15-17 Segment 2</b>	<b>4-26-15</b>	12:35	<p><b>Creativity in Technology and Art</b></p> <p>Synopsis: We hear a lot about creativity these days, but can you be creative and artistic if you work in any kind of occupation? We talk to two creative people – one an artist and the other a business consultant – about the essence of creativity, how they foster creativity in their work and how anyone can be creative – even under very constrained conditions -- if they just take the time to look at their life and work in a different way.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Miranda July, filmmaker, actor, screenwriter, author of the novel, <i>The First Bad Man</i>; Mark Barden, partner in the consulting firm, eatbigfish, and co-author with Adam Morgan of the book, <i>A Beautiful Constraint: How to transform your limitations into advantages, and why it's everyone's business</i>.</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Communications & Media; American History; Recreation; Economics	<b>Program #15-18 Segment 1</b>	<b>5-3-15</b>	10:12	<p><b>Baseball and the Movies: What Makes a Good Baseball Film?</b></p> <p>Synopsis: There are movies about a lot of sports and athletic competitions, but for some reason baseball outnumbers them all. Why is that? And what are the hallmarks of a good baseball movie? We talk to an author and professor of communications, and to a baseball novelist, player and screenwriter about these issues. We'll also hear about a novel way one guest is seeking to "crowdfund" and cast his upcoming baseball film.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Brother Gerry Molyneaux, Prof. of Communications, La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA, author of several film biographies including <i>John Sayles: An unauthorized biography of the pioneer filmmaker</i>. Mark Donahue, author of the novel, <i>Last At Bat</i>, screenwriter and life-long baseball player.</p>
Law; War & Military; Judicial System; Government; American History	<b>Program #15-18 Segment 1</b>	<b>5-3-15</b>	10:20	<p><b>The Bill of Rights: New Thoughts on its Structure and Meaning</b></p> <p>Synopsis: When we learn about the Bill of Rights in school, we often look at it as ten separate amendments to our Constitution instead of as a single, well-structured work, like a poem or symphony. Our guest didn't see this either, until he needed a document to type while practicing his word processing program. We'll hear about his realization that the Bill of Rights is, indeed, a cohesive and carefully plotted document, how it captures the essence of democracy that our forefathers fought for, and how, in modern cases, he thinks some Supreme Court decisions undermine the founders' intentions.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Burt Neuborne, Norman Dorsen Professor of Civil Liberties at NYU Law School, former National Legal Director of the ACLU, author of the book, <i>Madison's Music: On reading the First Amendment</i>.</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Technology; Business; Labor & Employment	<b>Program #15-19 Segment 1</b>	<b>5-10-15</b>	<b>10:09</b>	<p><b>Becoming Steve Jobs: A look at the life of the Apple co-founder</b></p> <p>Synopsis: Apple co-founder, Steve Jobs, was hailed as a genius during his lifetime for the success he and his partner made of the fledgling computer company. However, Jobs was also accused of being a divisive manager who burnt out his employees, and was eventually sidelined at his own company. We talk to one of his biographers about how Jobs changed his ways after he left Apple, and how his experiences with NeXT Computer, Pixar, and becoming a husband and father helped him develop into a savvy, more understanding innovator and leader.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Rick Tetzeli, co-author with Brent Schlender, of the book, "Becoming Steve Jobs: The evolution of a reckless upstart into a visionary leader."</p>
Women's Issues; Science; War; Education; Health	<b>Program #15-19 Segment 2</b>	<b>5-10-15</b>	<b>11:29</b>	<p><b>The Noted—and Unsung—Women of the Nuclear Age</b></p> <p>Synopsis: The Atomic Age is credited mostly to men like Einstein, Oppenheimer and Fermi. Although there's no question that these eminent scientists were leaders in the development and understanding of nuclear power, there were also many women who contributed knowledge and sometimes their health and lives, but who are overshadowed by the men. We talk to two authors whose books give these women the recognition they deserve.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Craig Nelson, author of "The Age of Radiance: The epic rise and dramatic fall of the Atomic Era." Denise Kiernan, author of the best-selling book, "The Girls of Atomic City," now in paperback.</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Arts & Literature; Media; African-American Issues; Crime; History	<b>Program #15-20 Segment 1</b>	<b>5-17-15</b>	10:34	<p><b>The Importance of Letters</b></p> <p>Synopsis: When was the last time you wrote or received a real, handwritten letter in the mail? It's sad that there are young people today who will never experience the joy of getting or writing a personal letter during their lives. We talk to a writer and editor about the importance of letter writing, and what we can learn from reading letters from notables and unknowns of the past.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guest: Shaun Usher, writer, editor of the book, "Letters of Note: An eclectic collection of correspondence deserving of a wider audience."</p>
Health & Nutrition; African-American Issues; Religion	<b>Program #15-20 Segment 2</b>	<b>5-17-15</b>	11:01	<p><b>Healthier Ethnic Cooking and Sweets</b></p> <p>Synopsis: America is a melting pot of many nationalities, races and religions, each with its own traditions and cuisines. Some of the food that is so loved by families across the country isn't the healthiest, however, and can cause obesity, blood sugar problems and heart issues. We talk to two experienced cooks and an award-winning baker about how they are trying to make ethnic dishes and baked goods a bit healthier while maintaining the flavors and textures of the traditional dishes.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Caroline Randall Williams, co-author of "Soul Food Love: Healthy recipes inspired by one hundred years of cooking in a Black family"; Leah Koenig, author of "Modern Jewish Cooking: Recipes and customs for today's kitchen"; Joanne Chang, owner of Flour Bakery + Café, Boston and Cambridge, MA, author of "Baking with Less Sugar: Recipes for desserts using natural sweeteners and little-to-no white sugar."</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Business; Productivity; Work-life Balance	<b>Program #15-21 Segment 1</b>	<b>5-24-15</b>	12:48	<p><b>Getting Things Done: It's all in the Planning</b> Synopsis: Does it ever seem like the more you try to get stuff done, the less you accomplish? It may be that you're expending too much energy on <i>doing</i> and not enough <i>planning</i> ahead of time. We talk to two experts in the field about some simple strategies you can use to make more of the time you have to get things done.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: David Allen, productivity consultant and author of <i>Getting Things Done: The art of stress-free productivity</i>; Steve McClatchy, founder of Alleer Training and Consulting, author of <i>Decide: Work smarter, reduce your stress and lead by example</i>.</p>
Elderly; Healthcare; Labor & Employment; Government; Family Issues; Immigrant Workers	<b>Program #15-21 Segment 2</b>	<b>5-24-15</b>	8:49	<p><b>Eldercare: Challenges for the Future</b> Synopsis: With the baby boomers transitioning into retirement in record numbers, and <i>their</i> parents living longer, we're facing an eldercare challenge that's bigger than we've ever seen before in this country. Who will take care of all of the older Americans who will need medical and end-of-life assistance in the coming decades? And how will we ensure that elder citizens will be able to live in comfort and dignity during their senior years? We talk to an activist about her own experiences with the system, and learn about strategies for dealing with the eldercare challenges that face us.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Ai-Jen Poo, co-director of Caring Across Generations, author of the book, <i>The Age of Dignity: Preparing for the elder boom in a changing America</i>.</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Higher Education; Race; Poverty; Ethnicity; Family Issues; Economics	<b>Program #15-22 Segment 1</b>	<b>5-31-15</b>	12:00	<p><b>Choosing a College: How it can affect your life in school and after</b></p> <p>Synopsis: High school graduates who plan to go on with their education are making plans to head off to college this fall. Not all of them were accepted to the college that was their first choice, and many are disappointed about it. Some young people didn't get into college at all because they weren't offered the help they needed to find a college that suited them financially and culturally. We talk to an author and to a high school counselor about the myths surrounding acceptance to an "elite" college, why a small or state school can be a better fit, and how high school counselors can better serve diverse and often financially strapped students.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Frank Bruni, columnist for The New York Times, author of the book, <i>Where You Go Is Not Who'll You'll Be: An antidote to the college admissions mania</i>; Joshua Steckel, counselor at a high school in Brooklyn, NY, co-author of the book, <i>Hold Fast to Dreams</i>.</p>
Agriculture; History; Medicine; Science	<b>Program #15-22 Segment 2</b>	<b>5-31-15</b>	9:45	<p><b>Big, Bad Botany</b></p> <p>Synopsis: Every spring, millions of gardeners head outside to spruce up their flower beds, trees, shrubs and vegetable patches, without thinking much about the history – and sometimes toxicity – of some of their plantings. We talk to a man who has researched the unusual side of gardening and find out about some very interesting plants, and how they were cultivated and used in the past as hallucinogens, medicines and tourist attractions.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guest: Michael Largo, author of the book, <i>The Big, Bad Book of Botany: The world's most fascinating flora</i>.</p>



Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Climate Change; Economy; Technology; Community Action; Government	<b>Program #15-23 Segment 1</b>	<b>6-7-15</b>	11:58	<p><b>The Psychology of Climate Change</b> Synopsis: We've heard a lot about climate change and global warming over the past 20 years or so, but ironically people care about it <i>less</i> now than they did a decade ago! We talk to a researcher and author about how the framing of climate change can skew the message and create attitudes that affect how we think of global warming and how we become motivated – or not – to do something about it.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guest: Per Espen Stoknes, psychologist, economist, author of <i>What We Think About When We Try Not to Think About Global Warming: Toward a new psychology of climate action.</i></p>
Children & Family Issues, Mental Health	<b>Program #15-23 Segment 2</b>	<b>6-7-15</b>	9:47	<p><b>The Empty Nest: How to cope when the kids leave for good</b> Synopsis: When the last child leaves home for college, marriage or that first job, parents are often sad and at loose ends about how the rest of their lives will progress. We talk to a therapist and author who's experienced her own children leaving home, about the emotions of "the empty nest" and what parents can do to reframe their lives when the children go out on their own.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guest: Wendy Aronsson, psychotherapist and author of "Refeathering the Empty Nest."</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Elderly; Disabled; Politics; Finance; Government; Retirement Issues; Family Issues	<b>Program #15-24 Segment 1</b>	<b>6-14-15</b>	10:55	<p><b>Social Security Works: How it can be funded and expanded</b></p> <p>Synopsis: There has been a debate going on for decades over Social Security and it's future. Sometimes we hear that it's going to go bankrupt; other times politicians want to scrap part of it and have workers find commercial financial instruments for their retirement; still others want to cut money paid out to retirees, their survivors and the disabled. We talk to an author and researcher about his ideas on why Social Security is important, isn't going broke, and how it can be expanded and funded with modest increases in the future.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Eric J. Kingson, Prof. of Social Work, Syracuse University, N.Y., author with Nancy J. Altman of the book, <i>Social Security Works! Why Social Security isn't going broke and how expanding it will help us all.</i></p>
Recreation; Health and Well-Being; Military, Technology, Drinking and Driving (boating)	<b>Program #15-24 Segment 2</b>	<b>6-14-15</b>	10:49	<p><b>Boating &amp; Water Safety: What you need to know this summer</b></p> <p>Synopsis: Hundreds of people die each year in boating accidents – and many of those can be prevented if the right equipment is on board and boating safety procedures are followed. We talk to two Coast Guard specialists about what you need to know and have on hand in your boat to make this summer's boating safe and fun.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Lt. Andrew Perodeau, U.S. Coast Guard 9<sup>th</sup> District Office of Law Enforcement, Great Lakes Hdqts., Cleveland, OH; Mike Baron, Recreational and Water Safety Program Mgr. U.S. Coast Guard 9<sup>th</sup> District in Cleveland, OH.</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Environment; Agriculture, Public Safety	<b>Program #15-25 Segment 1</b>	6-21-15	9:44	<p><b>A New Look at Invasive Species</b> Synopsis: Many ecologists, farmers and members of the public are worried that non-native plants and animals are invading the U.S. and preventing native species from thriving. Much money and time is spent trying to rid the land of these aliens – often to no avail. But are these species present because they're the only ones that can thrive in an area? Are they multiplying because of something bad we're injecting into their environment? Are these aliens actually helping nature create a diverse and robust environment? And are those so-called native species of plants and animals <i>really</i> native? Our guests have some surprising answers to those questions.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Fred Pearce, science journalist, researcher, and author of <i>The New Wild: Why invasive species will be nature's salvation</i>. Tao Orion, permaculture educator, author of <i>Beyond the War on Invasive Species: A permaculture approach to ecosystem restoration</i>.</p>
International Politics; Military; Religion; Business; Refugee Relief	<b>Program #15-25 Segment 2</b>	6-21-15	12:03	<p><b>The Great Fire: An unsung hero who save thousands</b> Synopsis: After World War I there was a great conflict in Turkey and many Christians and others were killed. The city of Smyrna was set ablaze and even more people had to run to the beaches just to escape the flames. Refugees poured into the city from towns and rural areas and soon there were tens of thousands stranded on the shore with nowhere to go. We'll hear how governments and diplomats in the West all but ignored their plight, and how the efforts of one brave relief worker and a Navy commander finally brought the victims to safety.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Lou Ureneck, Professor of Journalism at Boston University, author of <i>The Great Fire: One American's mission to rescue victims of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's first genocide</i>.</p>

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Duration	Description of Segment
Domestic Violence; Counseling; Mental Health; Children & Families; Crime	<b>Program #15-26 Segment 1</b>	<b>6-28-15</b>	10:05	<p><b>Domestic Violence: Why it happens and how it affects the family</b></p> <p>Synopsis: Domestic abuse is something many women and men will experience in their lives. We talk to two psychologists familiar with the subject about what kind of person perpetrates partner and domestic violence, what victims can do to remove themselves from the abuse, and how being a witness to or a victim of abuse affects the intimate relationship, children and the family dynamic.</p> <p>Host: Gary Price. Guests: Dr. Shannon Karl, Associate Prof. in School of Psychology at Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Dr. Jay Richards, forensic psychologist on the faculty of Washington University and Seattle University, author of the novel, <i>Silhouette of Virtue</i>.</p>
International Politics; Military; Religion; Business; Refugee Relief	<b>Program #15-26 Segment 2</b>	<b>6-28-15</b>	11:31	<p><b>Paternity and Family Leave: Good for families, workers and the economy</b></p> <p>Synopsis: Bringing a new baby into the home is a wonderful – and chaotic – experience, and it's often made more chaotic when mom and dad have to rush back to work shortly after the child is born. Financial reasons and the stigma of staying home if you're a man, keep parents away from their children at a time in their lives when they're needed the most. We talk to an author – and a dad who fought for his rights – about why it's important for employees to receive paid family leave to take care of new babies, sick relatives and elderly parents. He also explains why paid leave is good for business and the economy.</p> <p>Host: Marty Peterson. Guest: Josh Levs, journalist, father of 3, author of the book, <i>All In: How our work-first culture fails dads, families, and businesses – and how we can fix it together</i>.</p>

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